

The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 11 May 1972
Eleventh Year - No. 526 - By air

C 20725 C



Brandt regains initiative as Barzel censure bid fails



Opposition leader Rainer Barzel failed by two votes to unseat the Brandt administration by means of a 'constructive' motion of no confidence. 247 votes — two short of the absolute majority needed — were cast in favour of the motion, which, had it been approved, would automatically have made Barzel (left) Chancellor. Willy Brandt (right) held talks with the Opposition leader later that day. The crucial vote gave the government a tremendous boost but an early general election may still be in the offing.

Not for the past twenty years has the outcome of a parliamentary division been so tensely awaited as that on the 27 April Bundestag motion of no confidence in Chancellor Willy Brandt.

It was not only the first time the so-called constructive vote of no confidence was to be put to the test in this country, the idea being that a vote of no confidence can only oust a government in conjunction with an alternative nominee as Chancellor.

The international political significance of the division and its virtually undeniable connection with European *Ostpolitik* (and Soviet policy towards the West) were such that excitement had reached a high level in foreign capitals too.

The die has been cast. Opposition

IN THIS ISSUE

leader Rainer Barzel has made his bid for power and lost. His defeat cannot be measured in terms of the narrowness of the result. Shadow Chancellor Barzel and the Christian Democrats have played for such high stakes that the political consequences of failure must be accepted.

In the circumstances it is doubly significant that Chancellor Brandt and Foreign Minister Walter Scheel did not hesitate to invite the Opposition leader to talks immediately after the vote.

The new situation obliges both sides to take seriously their stated intention of resorting to joint action. Neither stands to gain from a fruitless stalemate.

Willy Brandt may not have won a glorious victory but he has emerged as the victor in a grave and nerve-racking governmental crisis. He owes his victory in part to the Opposition's decision to resort to the alarming logical finality of a motion of constructive no confidence.

The Opposition indeed made another contribution altogether to the government's victory. Behind-the-scene pressure on waverers to cross the floor and vote for the other side would appear to have worried two or three Opposition MPs so much as regards possible repercussions of a change of power that they abstained rather than vote for Rainer Barzel as Chancellor.

This assumption is lent weight by the public statements made by an equal number of FDP government backbenchers to the effect that they voted for the Opposition.

The result of the vote might well have been inexplicable had it not been for Willy Brandt's steadfast advocacy of the cause of domestic and external peace. Once again the Chancellor has demonstrated that the greater the crisis and the likelihood of day-to-day changes in the tenor of political feeling the calmer and more self-assured he himself becomes.

For the government, on the other hand, the situation remains a serious one, as it well knows. Not once since coming to power in October 1969 may the Social and Free Democratic coalition have sustained a parliamentary defeat, thus making the Opposition's motion of constructive no confidence an even greater risk than might otherwise have been the case. But this state of affairs need not be permanent.

Were it to emerge from votes on specific issues that the Brandt administration is in point of fact a minority government capable at best of fielding exactly the same number of MPs as the Opposition, an unusual situation would arise in Bonn.

The more uncertain the majority is, the greater the temptation will be for one MP or another to succumb to the pressure of powerful interests and "make history."

A majority in favour of Rainer Barzel would certainly have been susceptible to pressures of this kind. His defeat in the crucial no confidence vote makes the risk no less acute from the government's point of view.

There are certainly going to be serious difficulties ahead. The vote of confidence in Willy Brandt does not by a long way mean that the Moscow and Warsaw treaties are now sure of ratification. Nor does it eliminate the possibility of early general elections. But the Chancellor can first wait and see how he fares in the crucial votes ahead.

What matters is that the political initiative, including the decision whether or not to dissolve the Bundestag, is his once more. After the 27 April vote there is virtually no question of the Opposition tabling a further motion of constructive no confidence and putting a spoke through the wheel.

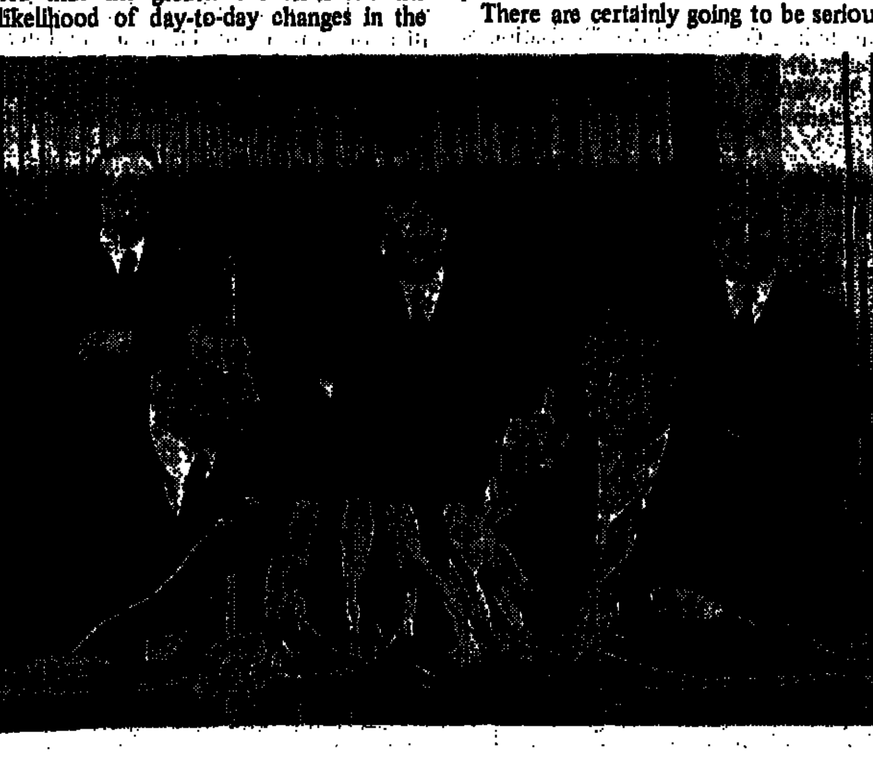
Willy Brandt need have no fear of holding an early general election, either, nor of basing his campaign on the treaties with Moscow and Warsaw: particularly in view of the defeat of the Opposition's motion of censure.

In 1969, when the Grand Coalition of Christian and Social Democrats bowed out of office, there arose for the first time in German history the possibility of power changing hands democratically.

In the hue and cry of day-to-day debate about domestic peace it is too often forgotten that this confirmation of the functioning of our parliamentary system has in fact worked wonders of stabilisation, integrating extremist groups, for instance.

The real significance of the 27 April vote of confidence in Willy Brandt is that this constitutionally crucial experiment has not died an early and dubious death caused by a handful of government MPs siding with the Opposition.

Hans Schuster
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 28 April 1972)



Transport agreement

Negotiations on a transport agreement between the Federal Republic and the GDR came to a successful conclusion on 27 April. State Secretaries Egon Bahr (left) of this country and Michael Kohl of the GDR are here seen reading the communiqué in East Berlin. Once the treaties with Moscow and Warsaw are ratified in Bonn GDR citizens of all ages will for the first time in years be allowed to visit relatives in this country in the event of urgent family troubles. (Photos: dpa)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Vietnam war will not be resolved in Vietnam

Were it a matter of earthquake victims or indeed road deaths in an ostensibly civilised country the figure ten thousand would conjure up visions of tragedy, sensation and unfathomable grief. Appeals would be launched for survivors and next of kin.

In the bare four weeks that have elapsed since the beginning of the North Vietnamese offensive against the South an estimated ten thousand people; North and South Vietnamese soldiers, civilians and Americans, have been killed.

Their death hardly seems to worry anyone anywhere any longer, neither in the capitalist nor in the socialist worlds in the names of which the two sides either attack or defend.

Detailed figures of the number of war victims in Indo-China will never be forthcoming but Central Europeans, who have lived in peace for the past 27 years, would do well to remember how many friends and relations were killed either in action, in the wake of enemy bombing or in flight, not to mention the maimed and injured.

This many sound a pathetic note but now and again it is as well to remember this aspect of suffering to counteract the boredom that sets in when the word Vietnam is never out of the news.

The fighting has come to be accepted as a matter of routine. People only half listen to the newscaster and skim over the newspaper reports. The Communists, one feels, have been on the attack since Easter. They have gained one strategic point or another but a dramatic turning-point has yet to occur.

Communist North Vietnam, collectively led since the death of Ho Chi Minh, has opted for conventional warfare. Gains have been made (aggression generally is successful).

Final decisions have yet to be made. Even a division of South Vietnam brought about by a Communist breakthrough to the coast need not necessarily end the war.

President Nixon's declared intention of withdrawing a further 20,000 ground troops from Vietnam by July is, provided the Paris talks are resumed, a sign of strength, or at least confidence.

America has trained and equipped the South Vietnamese so well that they will collapse neither after the initial nor after the second attack.

What is more, and there is no harm in repeating the fact, there are no signs of the full-scale revolt that ought to make short shrift of General Thieu and his American allies if there were any truth in the years of talk of the Vietnamese people being oppressed and shamelessly exploited.

Viewed in psychological terms the opposite would at present appear the case. Villages and provinces that have achieved a modicum of peace and prosperity have been rent by war again as a result of the North Vietnamese aggression.

All that the Communists can now do is conquer South Vietnam by means of an attack from without. They have forfeited the last opportunity of winning over the minds and hearts of a majority of the population.

Wilhelm Saekel

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 28 April 1972)

Pompidou and further European integration



Despite an all-time low in the French referendum poll President Pompidou will still be putting forward detailed proposals for further stages in European integration at the Paris summit conference of the Ten in October.

Only 36 per cent of the electorate may have voted in favour of the enlarged European Community but only seventeen per cent were opposed to the greater EEC: France's Communist voters and a small protest vote.

M. Pompidou's authority vis-à-vis other Western European leaders would have been far stronger had a larger majority of voters been in favour of the Common Market referendum but the French President has no real cause for alarm.

It would be wrong to conclude that the abstention by M. François Mitterrand's Socialist voters represents a vote against admission of Britain, Ireland, Denmark and Norway to the Common Market.

The 39 per cent of the electorate that did not go to the polls on 23 April are by no means only supporters of the Socialist Party, which failed to outdo the disciplined ranks of Communist voters.

General lack of interest in European policy, the feeling that M. Pompidou was sure of a majority in any case, dissatisfaction among small tradesmen and winegrowers – these too are factors that combined to reduce the poll to sixty per cent of the electorate.

The French are unresponsive to the Swiss-style referendum on a specific issue rather than government policy in general, General de Gaulle always having dramatised referenda into votes of confidence in himself. On losing a referendum in April 1969 the General resigned.

Foreign policy is not going to set the French world on fire, one can but conclude from the first referendum of the Pompidou era.

The French only unwillingly accompanied General de Gaulle to the heights of international grandeur. Their lack of enthusiasm has been confirmed by the partial success of M. Pompidou's first referendum.

(Deutsche Zeitung, 28 April 1972)

Podgorny given a cool reception in Ankara

Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny recently discovered, in the course of a six-day stay in Turkey, that Ankara is impervious to pressure and unshakeable in its loyalty to Nato.

The friendship and non-aggression pact between Turkey and the Soviet Union proposed by the Kremlin was not only not concluded; it was barely discussed.

Ever since President Nixon announced his intention of visiting Peking the Soviet Union has been engaged in a succession of diplomatic adventures designed to safeguard its spheres of influence, a policy that used to be known as one of securing bases.

In India and Bangla Desh and in Vietnam, following an undertaking to supply Hanoi with furth r arms, this policy has met with success (or at least the prospect of success). In Instanbul it made no headway whatsoever.

In Baghdad a friendship pact has been concluded and may be interpreted as a partial response to the perceptible cooling-off of relations with Libya, Egypt and Syria. But in Turkey no influence has been gained and no bases have been established.

President Podgorny was the first Russian head of state to visit Turkey for [illegible] years and thirteen major wars but not even this unique fact impaired Turkey's vision of the Soviet target — to break up the Western alliance.

The Turkish government and parliament may be at loggerheads on many issues but they are in no doubt as to where they stand in the international political arena.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 17 April 1972)

Americans and Russians agree in Geneva

At the final session of the spring round of Geneva disarmament talks America and Russia agreed to convene a special scientific congress prior to further discussion of a ban on the manufacture of chemical weapons. The congress is to convene on 5 July.

The Soviet Union, which has hitherto insisted on negotiations based on the Eastern Bloc draft, has thus met the West half-way, observers feel.

Prior to a treaty agreement the United States and other Western countries would prefer further detailed talks on inspection procedures and the definition of the chemicals to be banned.

The Geneva disarmament talks were adjourned on 27 April for a two-month breather and are scheduled for resumption on 20 June.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 28 April 1972)

The German Tribune

Publisher: Friedrich Reinecke. Managing Editor: Otto Heinz. Editor: Alexander Anthony. English language sub-editor: Geoffrey Penny. Distribution Manager: Georgine von [illegible]

Friedrich Reinecke Verlag GmbH, 23 Schöne Aussicht, Hamburg 76. Tel.: 2 28 51. Telex: 02 14733. Bonn bureau: Konrad Kadlubowski, 56 Adenauerallee, 53 Bonn. Tel.: 22 61 53. Telex: 08 86398.

Advertising rates list No. 8 — Annual subscription DM 25.

Printed by Krögers Buch- und Verlagsdruckerei, Hamburg-Blankenese. Distributed in the USA by: MASS MAILINGS, Inc. 540 West [illegible] Street, New York, N.Y. 10011.

All articles which THE GERMAN TRIBUNE reprint are published in cooperation with the editorial staffs of leading newspapers of the Federal Republic of Germany. They are complete translations of the original text, in no way abridged nor editorially redrafted. THE GERMAN TRIBUNE also publishes a Quarterly Review and a Supplement, articles selected from German periodicals.

In all correspondence please quote your subscription number which appears on the wrapper to the left of your address.

Peking challenges Moscow's naval force intrusions

Since the beginning of this year Peking has been busy placing obstacles in the path of Moscow's endeavour to secure sea routes from Europe to the Far East.

China too has reached the conclusion that the Soviet leaders have started where the Tsars left off in a singleminded attempt to carve out a sea route from the Black Sea to Vladivistok via the Mediterranean, the Red Sea, the Indian Ocean and the Western Pacific and linking Europe, Asia and Africa.

The Soviet Union has not been sparing with offers of economic and military assistance as an inducement to countries such as Egypt, India and Bangla Desh to provide port facilities for the Red Fleet.

Since 1968 Soviet warships have paid "courtesy calls" to virtually every country bordering the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf and the western Indian Ocean.

Espionage vessels disguised as trawlers, tugs and ocean research ships also patrol the various oceans with the aim of keeping them under Soviet control.

China's aim is to offset this gunboat policy by means of Mao's united front approach. The various countries are to be mobilised into taking counter-measures. So far every month this year has seen the inauguration of a new move.

In January China firmly supported the proposal of Mrs Bandanaraike, the Prime Minister of Ceylon, for a peace zone in the Indian Ocean and demilitarisation of the entire region.

The affairs of the area are, Peking proclaimed, a matter for the countries directly concerned ... question of superpower supremacy ... important a sea of passage as the Indian Ocean.

In February ... agency accused ...



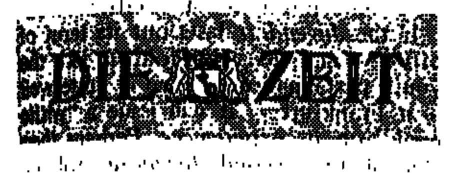
In the event of a crisis this would enable the countries concerned to close the Straits to tankers and warships, certainly to control one of the most important sea routes in Asia.

Peking is decidedly against the view voiced by Japan and the Soviet Union that the Straits of Malacca are international waters.

Early in April Peking took the opportunity of a visit by Maltese Premier Dom ... declared at a dinner given in Mr Mintoff's honour ...

HOME AFFAIRS

Economic, financial and social progress must come in easy stages



Surveys have come up with the same answer time and again: despite the passionate involvement of politicians in foreign affairs citizens of the Federal Republic judge the performance of a government first and foremost on its achievements on the home front, and more especially on its economic policies.

People in our democratic State are most concerned about how safe jobs are, how rapidly prices are rising, whether they are threatened with higher taxes, how old-age benefits can be improved, all of which move them far more than the most brilliant piece of diplomatic work on the foreign scene. The phrase: "If this government falls, inflation will bring it down," was heard even in the happier days of the Brandt Cabinet.

Nevertheless it would be too presumptuous to say that the crisis surrounding Brandt and his government was triggered off by shortcomings in economic and finance policies. The 1972 budgetary problems gave the Opposition a chance to launch an attack, but were not the root cause of their wanting to launch the attack. Statements to the effect that the SPD/FDP coalition set off the greatest financial crisis in the history of the Federal Republic are a good battle-cry, but not a good analysis of the facts.

Compared with the chaos that was once unleashed by Rolf Dahlgrün as Finance Minister, the Schiller budget for 1972 seems solid enough.

No one can deny that government spending has thrown up serious problems. From month to month new accounts have to be drawn up and the difference between the expected revenue and planned expenditure seems to be a widening gap. The result is that Bonn, local governments and borough councils plan more and more indebtedness.

The committee of experts known as the Five Wise Men considered credits of up to twelve milliard Marks reasonable up till 1972. But in its most recent monthly report the Bundesbank reckoned on twenty milliard Marks being required. Latest estimates, however, state that public spending will require something in the region of 27 milliard Marks, about five times as much as last year.

The frequent apologies that national indebtedness in the Federal Republic is very low compared to that in other nations is right enough, but only serves to veil the problem in question. With a reserved tone, but with great clarity when it comes to the crunch the Bundesbank speaks in terms of the request for credit exceeding by far the amount that would be justified by the overall economic picture. The association for the protection of the saver puts in more bluntly: "If the present planned budgets are accepted they will be a definite impulse towards price rises."

Finance policy cannot be kept separate from industrial and economic policies. This is where the problem lies. Massive deficit spending must help to push prices up even further. And this would come at a time when the depreciation of the value of money has been in the region of five to six per cent in the past ten months.

The high level of new indebtedness cannot even be passed off as a "programme of domestic reforms". In a recent analysis the Bundesbank revealed that Bonn, the states and local governments had increased their expenditure on investments at a *below average* rate in the past three years.

One major reason for this is that rising wage bills have swallowed up the best part of increased revenue. There was scarcely any money left at the end for the promised investments.

And so finance policy is likely to summon up a storm at precisely the time when industry and the economy have been expecting blue skies. In the past few weeks there have been definite signs of an imminent improvement in this country's economy.

Once again exchange rates are steady, progress is being made in the EEC plans, exports are doing better than expected, industrial turnover is rising more rapidly than expected (in February it was seven per cent up on the corresponding month in 1971) and even company profits are tending to increase. As for the thirty per cent increase in the share indices since November, whatever contributory factors there may have been we should not be pessimistic at such figures.

It was understandable, therefore, that Karl Schiller was beaming with optimism when he appeared at the Hanover Fair, even though he was received more coolly than usual as a result of the tense relationship between the Brandt government and industry.

Nonetheless Schiller was able to bring a handsome gift with him. A new wage settlement had been reached in the chemicals industry (an average 6.4 per cent increase) and for the first time this was in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Cabinet.

Even sceptics must admit that this is at least a temporary ending to the "explosive wage increases", which for three years have been the most important cause of inflation. Reduced to its simplest terms the economic diagnosis at the end of April reads: We have not yet turned the corner, but at least the corner is in sight now.

One decisive factor in future economic developments will be whether in the next few months the government can inspire confidence in its policy of "controlled boom". But it is essential for the government to tell the public the truth and the truth is that where economic policies are concerned, no matter who is at the tiller aims must be modest.

– Reforms, or at least those that cost money, cannot be carried out in this legislative period.

– A reduction of the expenditure now proposed for 1972 will probably be unavoidable.

– However thrifty the government is an increase in taxation may be necessary, but probably this will only involve an increase to VAT (say from eleven to twelve per cent). A different (some might say more just) division of the additional tax burden would be almost impossible to achieve, since all the experts are agreed that major tax reform proposed will not come about in the present legislative period.

– The livening up of industry and the economy can only succeed if the government manages to persuade the unions not to return to "an expansive wages policy". A renewed "battle for shares of the cake" as opposed to a "stabilisation pact" would of necessity lead to an economic crisis.

– Dispelling the illusion that we can regain stability tomorrow or the day after will come hard to many. But after the developments of recent years we know and must state clearly that the battle against inflation is a long campaign.

Statements to the effect that another government would have been forced to act in exactly the same way are hypothetical and can be neither proved nor scotched. There are indications that a CDU/CSU government would not have made many of the mistakes, particularly with regard to currency policy.

The only thing that is certain is that a CDU/CSU government would have left no one in doubt as to its loyalty to the private enterprise system, would have created no scares about possible bold tax increases and "revolutionary reforms". On the other hand this hypothetical government would probably have made many mistakes the SPD/FDP did not and failed to carry out many essential tasks in which the present government has succeeded.

It is vain to look back. We must now look to the future. And the watchword in all that is done with regard to economics, finance, and social welfare policies is "a little at a time".

Diether Stolze

(Die Zeit, 28 April 1972)

Federal government expenditure
1972 estimates
in thousand million Marks
1962–72
in thousand million Marks

Rising prices steady
Percentage increase over 1971 figure

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cost of living index	+5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.5	5.4
Industrial goods	+4.2	3.7	3.4	2.8	2.6	2.7

Schiller would not welcome a sudden boom

This country is a long way off winning the battle for restoration of price stability. For this reason the Bonn government has no plans to introduce measures to boost the industrial economy, according to a statement made by Economic Affairs and Finance Minister Karl Schiller at the opening of the Hanover Fair.

Professor Schiller foresees the latest developments with regard to wages and salaries as being beneficial towards efforts to return to stability. Since the turn of the year wage settlements have begun to correspond more to changes in the economic landscape. On the other hand there has been an increase in productivity with a satisfying number of new orders coming in.

The improvement to business forecast at the beginning of the year has indeed come about. But Schiller warned: "Although the spring has brought demand to life we will not rule out the possibility of a late frost."

He said that the trends to be expected in the economy can be summed up under five headings...

– In the second half of 1972 the economic boost could continue, perhaps at a greater rate. But a sudden boom would not be welcome.

– 1972 will be another year of full employment with job security. Real economic growth will be two or three per cent.

– In the light of a worldwide economic recovery this year foreign trade and particularly our exports could benefit. The outcome will probably be even greater export surpluses than in the past year.

– Companies can also expect an improvement in their profit and yield situations.

– The high rate of price increases is a brutal fact of modern life. Everything that might lead to further price increase should be avoided.

The President of the Association of West German Machinery Manufacturers, Herr Rupf, said that the "more modest" participation of many firms in Hanover was to be welcomed. Thereby the Fair could get back to its original purpose. Turning to business, he said that demand for capital investment machinery was still unsatisfactory.

He said that industry welcomed the recently initialled trade treaty with the Soviet Union. But he stated that there were limits to the expansion in trade this might bring.

On 27 April Deputy Premier Novikov visited the Hanover Fair as official representative of the USSR.

Malte Rettet

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 21 April 1972)

■ COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Nuremberg youth parliament is not a failure but still awaits success

DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT

Nuremberg has the first Youth Parliament in the Federal Republic. It is a group of young people between fourteen and 21 who confer with the city council on a number of matters concerning the young and help them to arrive at their decisions.

But even before the election on 28 April 1971 there was controversy about the young councillors. Some feared it would be taken over by left-wing revolutionaries while others thought this would be a typical attempt to keep the youth of the country quiet by giving them apparent rights and apparent influence which were in fact empty promises.

Nevertheless on the surface of it the idea seem to provide the basic requirements for a genuine active participation by the young in local government work. All three parties agreed the youth parliament should be formed. The city granted it funds of 34,000 Marks for the first year, placed a committee room at its disposal with offices and the chance to use many of its facilities. But in practice the *Jugendrat* has proved ineffective, crippled by disagreements within its own ranks.

It had hardly been formed and the 25 members and 25 representatives elected before there was internal strife. Critical observers called it "the gnome rebellion" as the young people sought to achieve the maximum influence.

Most of the members belong to the youth branch of the parties, or the Socialist German Young Workers (SDAJ). The idea quickly arose among the general public that it was not so much a case of representing the youth of Nuremberg as of furthering political careers.

In a recently published report advisers on statistics and the press Walter Torka and Wolfgang Koydl spoke of the "frustation" of many of the young councillors: "They feel that it is only possible to do justice to their mandate by hard work, but very few members are prepared to give sufficient time to this."

On the positive side we must count the meetings of the young citizens in the Meistersingerhalle as well as the equal status achieved for schoolchildren and apprentices on municipal transport. As the first partial success in the campaign to achieve free entry to all cultural and educational events there is the decision of the city council that plans to increase entry fees to museums, galleries and the like will not apply to young people.

Youth Councillor Gerhard Ferling criticises the institution to which he belongs. He said: "Too much emphasis is placed on members belonging to a political party. The work done by the youth representatives is not given so much attention. The main work lies in discussing basic ideological matters. Specialised problems are not given much attention. Thus the *Jugendrat* has not found much appeal among the young of Nuremberg."

Youth Councillor Joachim Mössler is of the opinion that there is no gap in the market for a youth parliament: "There are already organisations for the young such as the *Kreisjugendring* (borough youth association), the political youth association and the scholars participation committees which are concerned with matters of politics as they affect the young. Those organisations may be too restricted in their scope but the answer is not to form yet another association."

But schools and artistic affairs adviser Dr Hermann Glaser said: "Experience to date shows that the experiment, though not a failure, has not yet achieved success."

Lately it has come to our attention that a socialist faction has been formed which is attempting to gain a majority in the youth parliament. Last year this group even achieved a majority on a motion to issue an invitation to a Viet Cong delegation. This group manages to take advantage of the apathy and lack of time of many other members. *Its* members are always there.

For this reason the speaker Heinz Kränzlein, press adviser Wolfgang Koydl and statistics expert Walter Torka resigned their posts, but they did not quit the youth council. Their resignation came because a number of resolutions passed by a majority were not matters they felt they could represent to the public at large.

Seven youth councillors in fact are already so frustrated that they have given up their seats for "largely political reasons" or because of lack of time.

The participation system has so far worked badly and at the elections of the first youth parliament only 1,400 of the 33,000 people between fourteen and 21 in Nuremberg (4.3 per cent) bothered to vote. Interest seems to be greater outside the city. More than seventy inquiries have come in from 54 other cities.

If the *Jugendrat* lasts out its term of office – and does not fold up like the youth participation scheme in Pettersweil near Frankfurt – it will issue a "white book" on its experiences. Perhaps then Nuremberg's second *Jugendrat* will be able to draw on these experiences and achieve more. The elections for the second council will take place in November. The city council approved an extension of the legislative period of the first *Jugendrat* because of the teething troubles it had experienced. *Ruthart Tresselt*

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 23 April 1972)

CARE debt repaid to Third World

Food parcels from CARE (originally the Cooperative for American Relief in Europe, the E now standing for Everywhere). hrlped relieve famine in Germany after the War. Twenty-five years ago the relief parcels were flooding in at their greatest rate. Today the Federal Republic is saying Thank you in return by sending food parcels to the needy in Third World countries.

The first 1,001 packages, weighing about twenty tons and worth something like 40,000 Marks are now being sent by ship from Hamburg to Indonesia, Kenya, Colombia and Liberia. The packets were given a ceremonial send-off from Hamburg Town Hall by the Mayor Peter Schulz.

This is the climax of the "Thanks to CARE" campaign which was launched nationwide under the auspices of Lions International. These 1,001 are not to be the last packages sent. People in this country are being urged to send their contributions to a special account in Cologne. A further 100 food parcels are soon to be made up for South Korean families.

Lions in North Germany is in contact with 44 embassies so that it is possible to select carefully who should receive the food. The packages will be delivered by representatives of the Care Organisation which is active in 38 countries.

Pastor Diehl, who became the executive chairman of the Central Committee for the Distribution of Charitable Gifts for Abroad, in 1960, said in Hamburg that Care was now providing help as reliably as it did in Germany 25 years ago. Care acts as a kind of international fire brigade wherever want and hunger flare up. People in this country should never forget that for fifteen years this country received 100 lbs of food per minute from America. Care had a large share in this charitable work.

Care is concentrating at the moment on the emergency in Bengal. Almost the entire technical staff of Care are engaged on building houses in the stricken area. Some of the money goes to the special Thanks to Care account will be used for this purpose. And for every dollar contributed Care can make up a food parcel of 25 lbs. This is posible because apart from the money coming in the United States is contributing food supplies.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 13 April 1972)

Housewives parliament aims at fair deal for shoppers

Bonn has two parliaments at work. The one is the well-known Deutscher Bundestag with Kai-Uwe von Hassel as its President. But among businessmen, industrial groups, ministries and consumers the second parliament, the Deutsches Hausfrauen Parlament, should soon be equally well-known. Its President is Gisela Meininghaus.

This mother of four is preparing to make her first big public appearance. Following a year of preparatory work the housewives parliament is due to begin its work this spring.

Said President Meininghaus: "Our parliament consists of 250 housewives from all over the country. It is only half as big as the Bundestag and no government is forced to abide by its decisions." Nevertheless the new parliament is making preparatory attempts to give the consumer, up till now a powerless individual, a bigger say at the corner grocer's shop and in the large stores.

"The housewife is alone against the shopkeeper and in a bad position," says Mrs Meininghaus. "If she dares pass comment or make suggestions for improvements she is quickly branded as a Moaning Minnie."

In future housewives will be able to place their problems and their suggestions before the housewives parliament which will then direct them at whomsoever is concerned.

"Obviously we don't intend to tell shopkeepers how to run their business, how many different kinds of cheese to keep in stock and the like. But we can at least let shopkeepers know that consumers would like a greater selection of certain commodities.

One major chain realised the value of such housewife guidance a year ago. Up till then they had tried to find out their customers' likes and dislikes by means of market research and opinion polls. At the same time as these stores decided to test consumer opinion by direct means the "Contact Bureau for Consumer Information", a body organised by the Ministry of Agriculture (and Food) in Bonn hit upon the idea of consumer representation.

They got together and formed the housewives parliament, stating that this should work as an independent institution.

President Meininghaus said: "Although we don't hold a diet a number of housewives volunteered to carry out this work. The amount of interest they are showing in this venture indicates how long they have waited to be given a say in these matters."

The Institute for Applied Consumer Research, headed by Professor Specht in Cologne selected 250 housewives from the many applicants. They will form ten regional sub-committees. Each of these "provincial assemblies" will specialise in a certain sphere.

Dortmund will be responsible for modern eating ideas, Bamberg for the links between buying and the standard of living, Frankfurt for advertising and communications media, Karlsruhe for prices, Hildesheim for after-sales service and Cologne for legal matters.

The chairmen of these provincial assemblies elected Gisela Meininghaus as their President. She has long experience as a housewife: "After my father was killed my mother was taken ill and at 18 I had to look after the house with very little money coming in." Although she studied to be a chemist Mrs Meininghaus married and had four children. She decided to become a "professional housewife."

She has earnt a "champion housewife's diploma" and apart from doing household chores works in a chemist's shop, attends a once-a-week course in making jewellery and has still found time to help found the new parliament. Every time she goes shopping she regards it as going into a sporting event – to win she must get the best goods at the cheapest price.

The first sub-committee meeting showed that housewives are no slouches when it comes to parliamentary work. The first point they attacked was the packing of deep-frozen chicks. They complained that the giblets are wrapped in paper placed inside the chicken and the whole caboodle is frozen up together so they have to pay for the giblets whether they want them or not. If these were wrapped separately, furthermore, it would be possible to begin grilling the chicken immediately instead of having to wait while it thawed out.

President Meininghaus has spoken on the subject of the lack of milk supplies in many shops, the lack of information carried by advertising and the shortcomings of the system of dating perishables which can often only be worked out with the aid of a specialist in codes.

The housewives want it to be made possible in future to see at a glance how fresh foodstuffs are and if deep-freeze equipment is working correctly.

They complain that the authorities employ far to few food testers. And they hope in future to be able to publish lists of genuine bargains. *Bernd Lamark*

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 8 April 1972)

■ ELECTIONS

CDU's Stuttgart performance amazes the pundits

Amazement was the overriding feeling among some six hundred journalists and observers covering the 23 April voting returns and computer forecasts after what had been the longest and toughest election campaign ever in Baden-Württemberg.

Next to no one had ventured to suggest the Christian Democrats might poll 53 per cent of the vote, nine per cent more than in the last provincial assembly elections four years ago and 2.3 per cent more than in the 1969 general election, in which the CDU was felt to have reached a record high-water mark.

Not that anyone had taken Social Democratic leader Walter Krause's claim that victory was theirs for the asking all that seriously, but most pundits had expected the running to be neck and neck, with the Christian Democrats retaining a small lead and thus gaining the absolute majority.

The outcome of the Baden-Württemberg elections as indicated by computer forecasts only an hour after the last polling-booth had closed came as a surprise all round.

The overall outcome was a resounding victory for CDU Premier Hans Filbinger, yet in his own constituency, Freiburg, Filbinger trailed three per cent behind the

Hannoversche Allgemeine

outgoing Social Democratic Minister of Justice, Rudolf Schieler.

Freiburg was indeed the only constituency in South Baden where the SPD won a seat straight off. The gain is viewed as a personal defeat for Hans Filbinger, who neglected his constituency almost entirely until a few months prior to the elections and then resorted to publicity so blatant that it is likely to have cost the CDU more votes than it gained.

Filbinger just managed to scrape home on the second count method of allotting further seats to ensure proportional representation.

The personal defeat sustained by the Christian Democratic leader is offset, as it were, by the narrow defeat of one of the most able Ministers in the outgoing Cabinet, SPD Labour Minister Walter Hirrlinger.

During his four years in office Hirrlinger managed to do more with his small Ministry than other members of government succeeded in doing with far larger Ministries. Only 0.2 per cent of the vote separated him from a constituency seat in Esslingen. He stood no chance of gaining a seat via the regional lists.

With such individual surprises occurring it is hard to reduce the election results to a common denominator. The Federal government's *Ostpolitik*, lauded sky-high at national and local level by the Social Democrats, certainly failed to decide the issue.

At first glance the CDU's resounding victory might have been interpreted as a slight but definite setback for the Federal government's East Bloc policy, yet opinion polls in Baden-Württemberg have revealed on more than one occasion that a convincing majority of the general public is in favour of the present *Ostpolitik*.

Spokesmen for all three major parties agreed when the resuls came through that the outcome could not be viewed as a vote for or against Bonn's *Ostpolitik*.

Even Hans Filbinger, the winner, was at pains to reiterate that *Ostpolitik* had been neither here nor there as far as the provincial assembly elections were concerned. Social and Free Democratic leaders Walter Krause and Karl Moersch not unnaturally concurred.

The outcome represents a clear defeat for the Social Democrats, – for both the campaign concept and the party. 37.5 per cent may be more than the SPD has ever before polled in Baden-Württenberg but it was only one point up on the voting in the 1969 general election (the SPD has always polled far more votes in provincial than in general elections).

The Social Democrats were well aware of the danger of overemphasising the treaties with Moscow and Warsaw. In previous local elections, the campaign managers realised, *Ostpolitik* had been a major issue but had little effect on the outcome.

The SPD fielded its national leaders in the Baden-Württemberg election campaign with the express aim of convincing the electorate of the importance of the treaties because – and this is the point – there was no alternative.

To make play with national domestic issues in a state renowned for its savers and home-owners would have been hopeless. Emphasising local issues would hardly have clinched matters, either, despite subsequent suggestions by members of the SPD state executive committee that this might have been preferable.

The Social Democrats lacked a leader with the statesmanlike appeal of the CDU's Hans Filbinger.

One reason why the ensuing defeat has been felt to be so serious is that the SPD, alone among the coalition parties in Bonn, had nailed a take-over of power in Stuttgart to its mast. The Free Democrats had realistically commented that this would have been a sensation of the first water.

The Free Democrats, along with the CDU, have emerged as the winners of the elections. In the 1969 general election the FDP's share of the votes in Baden-Württemberg slumped to an all-time low of 7.5 per cent. Before Easter the FDP was seriously worried lest it failed to scale the five-per-cent hurdle and disappear from the state assembly altogether.

The Free Democrats' 8.9 per cent poll would appear to bear out the claim by Stuttgart FDP leader Karl Moersch that his party has weathered the worst of the storm in a part of the country where it has always done well.

This was undoubtedly due in no small measure to independent campaigns on behalf of the Free Democrats by such surprising personalities as Professor Theodor Eschenburg, probably the best-known advocate of a two-party system in the country, and Dr Paulssen, ex-chairman of the Confederation of Employers' Associations, who assured a large number of middle-class Free Democrats that the FDP was far from being the Red appendage of the SPD that Christian Democratic election propaganda made it out to be. *Ernst Fabian*

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 25 April 1972)

	1972 local elections			1969 general election		1968 local elections		1964 local elections	
Parties	Votes	%	Seats	Votes	%	%	Seats	%	Seats
CDU	2,517,801	53.0	65	2,322,349	50.7	44.2	60	46.2	59
SPD	1,784,549	37.5	45	1,675,702	36.5	29.0	37	37.3	47
FDP	424,709	8.9	10	343,350	7.5	14.4	18	13.1	14
DKP	21,896	0.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
DFU *	587	0.0	–	21,927	0.5	–	–	1.3	–
NPD	–	–	–	207,900	4.5	9.8	12	–	–
Others	5,167	0.1	–	13,538	0.3	2.6	–	2.1	–

* German Peace Union

Electorate: 6,002, 540; Votes cast: 4,804,189
Valid: 4,754,799 or 80.8% poll

Facts and figures

Five parties stood for election in Baden-Württemberg. They were the Christian Democrats (CDU), the Social Democrats (SPD), the Free Democrats (FDP/DVP), the Communists (DKP), the German Peace Union (DFU) and a number of independents.

There were six million voters, 3.2 million of whom were women. Six hundred thousand people voted for the first time, 1.6 million voters were aged sixty or over.

Roughly half the population of Baden-Württemberg are Roman Catholic, the other half are Protestants. One person in three is either a refugee or an expellee.

Baden-Württemberg is the most highly industrialised state in the country, boasting mechanical engineering, motor manufacturers, chemicals, electrical engineering, precision engineering and optical goods, musical instruments and toys.

A work force nearly half a million strong is involved in agriculture, forestry, fruit and wine. One farmer in five is a smallholder.

There are more than 100,000 one-man and family firms in the trade and service sector. At the other end of the scale Baden-Württemberg boasts nearly 400 millionaires.

Baden-Württemberg was the last state with a Grand Coalition government of Christian and Social Democrats. The Social and Free Democrats this time intended forming a coalition along the same lines as Willy Brandt's Bonn coalition of SPD and FDP.

Seventy candidates were elected directly in their constituencies. The remaining fifty seats are distributed according to principles of proportional representation.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 22 April 1972)

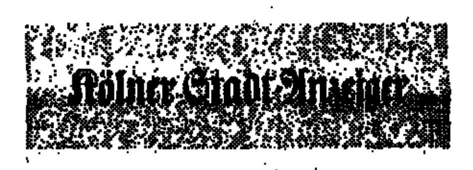
SPD's high hopes sadly dashed though FDP do well

Why, in view of the fact that Baden-Württemberg is a naturally conservative part of the world, ought Stuttgart to be the scene of a landslide electoral victory for the Social and Free Democrats – in provincial assembly elections too?

Apart from a slight improvement between the 1968 state elections and the 1969 general election their share of the vote in Baden-Württemberg has, give or take a fraction of a per cent, steadily declined.

A landslide it was not to be. The Christian Democrats gained an absolute majority and their position in the state is better than at any time in the past fifteen years.

The CDU can only be said to have sustained losses if one assumes that it would have completely cornered the National Democrats' share of the vote in 1968 and 1969 had the NPD not stood



for election (and that would be a bold assumption, to say the least). The Christian Democrats have unquestionably done extremely well.

It is up to the CDU itself to decide to what extent the credit is due to Baden-Württemberg Christian Democratic leader Hans Filbinger or to Rainer Barzel, CDU leader in Bonn.

Both in Stuttgart and in Bonn there will be disappointment that the Social Democrats have improved little on their showing in the last general election and failed to reach the allegedly magic milestone of a forty-per-cent share of the vote.

But there again, the outcome could well have been far worse considering the relatively mediocre standard of the South-West's leading Social Democrats.

The performance of the Free Democrats, the smaller of the two coalition parties in Bonn, comes as something of a consolation. They fared by no means as well as in the 1968 state assembly elections – a record showing – but improved perceptibly on their share of the 1969 general election vote.

The result of the Baden-Württemberg elections might thus have brought a beneficial influence to bear on the course of debate on ratification of the treaties with Moscow and Varsaw.

Ironically enough, though, at almost the same time as the first computer forecasts based on the initial election returns came through on agency wires the news of Free Democratic Bundestag member Wilhelm Helms's resignation from the FDP broke.

Unless he votes in favour of the treaties notwithstanding, the absolute majority the Federal government will need to secure ratification of the treaties will once again be in jeopardy.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 24 April 1972)

■ UNCTAD

Poorer nations demand action at Chile talks

"The peoples of the world will no longer accept an international set-up that maintains the present division of rich and poor for an indefinite period," Chilean President Salvador Allende said accusingly at the opening of the third UN conference on trade and development (Unctad) in Santiago. His words echo the sentiments of the developing nations towards prosperous industrial countries.

Before the end of the mammoth conference, with 2,500 delegates from 141 countries taking part, including Red China for the first time, the "Group of 77", now boosted to all 96 developing countries, not only intends to read the riot act to the wealthy from East and West but also intends to wring from them concrete concessions.

For, since their last meeting in Algiers in October 1967, they state categorically that the rich really have got richer and the poor poorer.

The relative situation of developing countries is getting continually worse. The gap between haves and have-nots is widening. At the end of the first development decade, which had been a disappointment for the Third World, there came the currency crisis of last year which heightened the plight of the Third World no end. It is reckoned that the loss of vital foreign exchange, which is at a premium in these countries as a result of the realignment last December, was in the region of 1,000 million dollars.

On average the world population increased by two per cent in the years 1960 to 1970. In the developing countries it was above average at 2.6 per cent. In the industrialised West the increase was 1.2 per cent and in the socialist countries (including the USSR) 1.1 per cent.

But while the Third World countries were only slightly under the growth rate of the world industrial product (5.1 per cent as opposed to 5.2) with an increase of 4.9 per cent in the East Bloc and 6.7 per cent in the free West, the total improvement per capita was a modest 2.4 per cent, whereas industrialised countries, which started at a higher level anyway, were able to improve their situation more markedly (3.7 per cent in the West, 5.5 per cent in the East Bloc).

In other words the per capita earnings in the industrialised world increased in the sixties by over $ US 650, while in the Third World it was a meagre forty-dollar increase.

In exports too the Third World has lagged behind in the past decade. They increased by only 7.3 per cent on a yearly average compared with 10.1 per cent in the West and 8.4 per cent in the Communist Bloc. This in fact meant that their proportion of world exports dropped from 20.9 per cent in 1961 to just 17.6 per cent in 1970.

The main export goods from the developing countries are raw materials and foodstuffs. Apart from the Latin American countries such as Brazil and Mexico end products and semi-finisheds have only a minor role to play. Even if such products did become an important part of Third World production and a potential bringer of foreign exchange the countries would be faced with import barriers in industrialised countries to protect their domestic industries, despite preferences.

In many cases a developing country survives on the export of just one raw material or foodstuff. In 1969 for instance 49 per cent of Bolivia's export returns were from tin, Burundi relied 79.5 per cent on coffee, Mauretania exports were 87 per cent iron ore, Niger's exports were sixty per cent peanuts, and as much as 94.5 per cent of Zambia's exports were copper. Needless to say these countries are in dire straits whenever the bottom falls out of their particular market.

There has been no shortage of such difficulties in years gone by and they have been the root cause of the worsening situation of the poor countries. The buying countries have found themselves with ample supplies of products such as cocoa, tea and coffee and temporarily at least there has been over-production of numerous raw products. This has been partly due to attempts to cash in on temporary price rises and partly due to export drives. Furthermore the situation is affected by the economic state of purchasing countries and the development of synthetic products and substitute goods.

By completing new agreements on the supply of raw materials the developing countries hope at least to stabilise their export yield. But it is possible that in the end they would be content if one or other of the things they are demanding were granted, such as a guarentee of a share of the market, a limitation of production of synthetic substitutes and import reliefs.

However conciliatory their spokesman may sound the rich nations will not make too many concessions, that is clear. For instance Karl Schiller has said that President Pompidou's suggestions for a raw materials agreement "go too far" and has rejected them.

The whole world knows that the Third World cannot close the prosperity gap by its own elbow grease. The gap is opened wider all the time by the rich nations' advanced technology. In the light of this it is easy to understand the disappointment of the poorer nations that the recommendations of the first and second Unctad conferences were not implemented. In 1964 in Geneva the figure suggested was one per cent of national income. In 1968 in New Delhi this had been reduced to one per cent of the national product.

But between 1960 and 1970 the proportion of development aid from industrialised nations measured against their GNP dropped from 0.9 per cent to 0.78 although the total amount of money contributed went up in the same period from about nine milliard dollars to 15,600 million.

In Santiago the battle is for a further increase in the development aid norm. Direct private investments should no longer be included along with guaranteed export credit, and interest payments should be deducted. The burden of interest on the sixty-milliard dollar debt along with the burden of amortisation has become a pressing problem for the developing nations. In 1971 they had to raise about six milliard dollars for this purpose.

About one half of development aid is eaten up by amortisation and interest payments. But will the Santiago conference succeed in changing conditions to those demanded by the International Development Association (IDA) namely interest of 0.75 per cent, a duration of fifty years and ten years free from repayment obligations?

Professor Schiller has accepted these conditions for aid to the 25 least developed countries and has offered general capital aid at similarly favourable conditions: two per cent, thirty years, ten years free, instead of the previous three per cent, 24 years and 7.3 free years.

Furthermore the criteria by which the "25 poorest countries" were to be chosen were not unchallenged at the beginning of the Santiago conference. For these 25 countries a social fund was to be set up and naturally the more fortunate developing countries were not keen to see such developments to their detriment being implemented.

Perhaps at this juncture it is more worthwhile to study the link between development aid and special drawing rights. Karl Schiller would like to see special drawing rights for financing development aid only to the extent of the financial requirements for growth in trade. But will the warning he and others in his camp have given about inflation be heeded? It would be grotesque if the Unctad conference overstepped this mark; the much lamented development of terms of trade would only be aggravated.

The international monetary system must be substantially reformed and in particular for the sake of the developing countries.

It would be a good thing if developing countries were to accept the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as a forum. Industrialised nations, and in particular the Group of Ten must at all costs avoid giving the impression that they alone are responsible for decision-making.

Manfred Bossert

(Deutsche Zeitung, 21 April 1972)

Mansholt calls for realignment offset arrangement

Sicco Mansholt, the President of the European Commission, has come out in favour of compensation being paid to developing countries for the losses they incurred as a result of the currency crisis and Washington realignment last year.

At Unctad III in Santiago de Chile Mansholt said that at the next allocation of special drawing rights by the International Monetary Fund special consideration should be given to the Third World nations to compensate them for their foreign exchange reserves lost last year, losses estimated at between one and three milliard Marks.

But Mansholt rejected the Third World's idea of forging a link between IMF special drawing rights and development aid; it is essential to prevent the creation of excessive liquid cash. Nevertheless, he said, currency policy moves could not substitute for financial and technical aid.

The new President said it was "shameful" that industrialised nations could not meet the demand to grant 0.7 per cent of their GNP to development aid.

In order to increase development aid from the present average of 0.35 per cent (0.33 % in the Federal Republic) to the required 0.7 per cent the industrialised nations would only have to contribute 1.5 per cent of the sum by which their prosperity will grow in the seventies according to estimates.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 19 April 1972)

Schiller outlines Bonn's aid plans at Santiago

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Bonn stresses that it has made concrete offers of aid to developing countries at the Unctad III meeting in Santiago. The Bonn Minister responsible for development aid, Erhard Eppler, said Professor Schiller helped to bring the conference in Chile down to brass tacks and showed how practical progress can be made.

Of the measures announced by Schiller in Chile the provision of cheap credit for the poor countries and particularly the poorest among them will take effect immediately.

Up till now industrialised nations have given credit to the Third World on so-called standard conditions: 2.5 per cent interest, 30-year duration of loans, eight years free of repayment. Bonn is now offering two per cent interest and ten years free of repayment.

In addition it was decided to give special favours to those 25 countries that were described in the United Nations resolution of 1971 as particularly suitable for aid. Aid to these countries should according to an OECD recommendation reach an 86 per cent degree of preference compared with the state of the market. The Bonn government is the first to say how this should look in practice: 0.75 per cent interest, 50-year duration, *ten years* free.

Among these 25 highly underdeveloped areas are countries such as Chad, Ethiopia, Niger, the Sudan, Tanzania, Afghanistan and Laos – most of them being countries that have received public aid from Bonn in the past and continue to do so.

Between 1950 and 1970 over one milliard Marks in capital aid flowed into these countries. Between 1968 and 1971 alone it was 140 million. The new settlement will hardly place any extra burden on the Bonn budget.

Erhard Eppler said that the high level of indebtedness of Third World countries – sixty milliard dollars at the end of 1970 made it impossible to offer credit on even more favourable terms.

Apart from the better credit arrangements being offered the developing countries another point that Schiller underlined in Santiago was that allowing developing nations to participate in the international monetary system was being considered. Also industrial nations might give up a part of the additional special drawing rights in favour of the Third World and an extension of the special EEC customs duties was also on the cards.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 20 April 1972)

What is Unctad?

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) was founded in 1964 as a body of the General Assembly. At present there are 141 members. There is a permanent secretariat in Geneva and a trade and development council with 55 members that meets once a year.

The plenary meeting of Unctad was scheduled for once every three years, but this timetable has not been adhered to. The first plenary meeting in 1964 in Geneva set the aim as one per cent of the national income of industrialised nations to be given annually to development aid.

Unctad II in New Delhi in 1968 altered this somewhat. At Unctad III in Santiago de Chile from 13 April to 19 May this year 2,500 delegates are discussing far-reaching Third World problems.

Unctad decisions are not legally binding on member countries. Developing countries would like to make Unctad into a UN special organisation so that legally binding decisions would be possible. Industrialised nations are not in favour of this.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 18 April 1972)

■ TRADE

Mysterious sponsor campaigns to abolish Retail Premises (Hours of Opening) Act

Walter Wichmann, the head of the Federal Association of Self-Service Stores complains: "It's only in Germany that the bailiff stands at the shop doorway and demands that people obey him." His attack is directed against all the rules and regulations stipulating that people must do their shopping on weekdays up till 6.30 pm.

Herr Döhmann, a spokesman for Wertkauf GmbH in Karlsruhe, is no less abrupt in his condemnation of shop closing hours in this country. He said: "This stupid ruling is unique to Germany. We intend to make a case of it."

Peter Hönisch of the Bonn PR agency Hönisch und Hass also intends to make a case of the law that was introduced in 1956 compelling shopkeepers to bolt their doors at specified times. For some time he has been mobilising his forces to beat the champions of shop closing hours with PR methods.

The Retailers Association (HDE) considers Hönisch's action so dangerous that their spokesman Hubertus Tessar intends to launch a massive offensive against the agency. He is angered by "a massive undermining of our democratic set-up" since Hönisch "intends to brainwash public opinion".

But Tessar's voluble attacks on Hönisch's brainwashing exceeded the bounds of normal democratic discussion, especially as the present closing-time laws do not rest on a broad democratic majority. When the law was passed only 153 of the 493 Bundestag members voted for it. *Two hundred were absent* and 129 voted against, so the law came into being thanks to an opportune majority.

For this reason the law has been a bone of contention for years. Those who are opposed to relaxing the present stipulations are to be found in the retail trade camp, in the trades, banks and insurance trades unions and the West German White-Collar Workers Union. They back up their case with demoscopic surveys showing that eighty per cent of consumers, 95 per cent of shopkeepers and one hundred per cent of shop staff are happy with the present law.

But the champions of a liberalisation of the law challenge these figures. The association of self-service stores surveyed customers and discovered that 44 per cent of them were for a change in opening hours, 42 per cent are against and fourteen per cent undecided.

Tailor-making answers

These figures do not say a great deal, it is true. It is possible to get the answer you want to hear by the way the question is framed.

The same applies to the pros and cons of other arguments. While the spokesmen for the retail trade point to the lack of staff – there is a shortage of 150,000 – and warn that the situation would be worsened by longer opening hours, their opponents say it would be possible to take on part-time workers. Peter Hönisch said: "There is any number of housewives ready to boost the family budget by serving in a shop."

Traders already have to employ shift-workers, since the total hours of serving, 64 a week, are way above the usual working week of forty hours. They say that if they stayed open all hours of the night wage bills would soar and consequently prices too. Their opponents



counter that their turnover would go up while other costs remained stable. It would not, they say, only be possible to pay higher wage bills, it might be possible to cut prices too.

The spokesman for the retailers association returns the ball from his court, saying that the larger stores would benefit from longer hours at the expense of the smaller shops. PR man Hönisch and his camp are of a diametrically opposite view. They say that the initiative and good service of the "shop on the corner" would really come into their own if they were allowed to choose their hours of opening. They would prove more flexible than the ponderous chain stores. But a spokesman for the Kaufhof department store chain said: "We would be able to adjust."

Herr Tessar pointed out that salesman and salesgirls had a right to go home and watch TV too. He claimed that the turnover of the retail trade already suffers after six o'clock because of television.

Experience gained in other countries such as Switzerland recently shows that this is not the case and shops that stay open till eight at night are able to boost their turnover. The increased turnover of mail-order sales and the success of automatic vending machines show that there is a need for sales outside the regular opening hours.

As spokesman for the movement to get the law changed Peter Hönisch said: "Mail-order houses have been able to cash in on this law. The other benefactors are the stores with everything under one roof, which experience something of a rush hour in the short period between office-closing and shop closing times."

The keenest champions of an alteration in the law are the cash-and-carry stores, self-service super-markets out in the wilds away from crowded city centres which cater for people with cars who can buy in bulk. Shoppers would flock to them in their thousands if there were time to load up the car with the whole family and drive out to them late into the evening after a busy day at work.

The Association of Self-Service Stores is the actual initiator of the new campaign. Their business manager Herr Wichmann states openly the interests and involvement of his organisation. But he denies being one of the men behind the Hönisch PR campaign.

The Stuttgart textiles company Breuninger is believed to be supplying the cash. But this company, which is at present expanding and opening several stores in the outskirts of Stuttgart denies its financial involvement and Peter Hönisch also denies they are involved in the campaign.

Another favourite is the Saarbrücken men's and children's outfitters Möller and Schaar, especially as a spokesman for this company admits, "our Herr Möller has already spent a small fortune trying to get this law changed".

Nobody seems to know who has profited from all this money changing hands. Peter Hönisch says he has not had one Pfennig from Saarbrücken. Whoever the organiser of the campaign is Hönisch denies the mystery man has spent anything like the quarter million Marks being mentioned. "A gross exaggeration," he claims.

The fact that the PR agency will not name its sponsor is grounds enough for the Consumer's Study Group (AGV) in Bonn to exercise caution. Their spokesman, Wolfgang H. Glöckner said: "While we are in the dark as to who is providing the money we are keeping out of this." Normally the AGV is ready to support anyone "who will keep this pot boiling".

But in future the matter should not be kept on the boil by any mysterious Mr X. An action committee on shop hours is to be set up. It will be a form of club to which "The West German Housewives League", "The Institute for Applied Consumer Research," ADAC (the motoring club) and Bundestag members Walter Picard (CDU) and Hermann Spillecke (SPD) among others will belong.

The service to the public of this move has already been proved, according to Peter Hönisch. "Now we can expect financial aid to come pouring in."

Wolfgang Hoffmann

(Die Zeit, 21 April 1972)

Making up

People in this country spent 70 Marks per head last year on cosmetics and toilet preparations, according to an industry spokesman at *Kosmeta 72*, Karlsruhe.

This figure is eight Marks more than in 1970.

In the past year expenditure on cosmetics and toiletries increased by eight per cent to 2.7 milliard Marks.

(Nordwest Zeitung, 18 March 1972)

Unhappy fatsos pay through the nose for low-calorie food

In specialist jargon in the food industries there is now a new phrase – the slim market. This refers to the growing selection of so called "slimming foods", sausage with reduced fat content, fat-reduced cheese, soups, sauces, hotpots, meat dishes and salads all with low calorie contents. The selection goes as far as artifically sweetened fruit juices, sweets and preserves. There are now even bread, flour and noodles for the slimmer. One of the big hits is a margarine whose fat content has been reduced by fifty per cent and replaced by water.

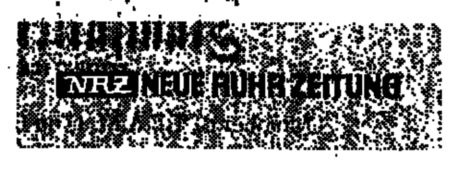
Professor Ludwig Kotter, an expert on meats and other animal food products at Munich University, said that this new vogue was "a well-intentioned piece of cheating the consumer". But he added critically: "I view it with great concern. It is not right to sell foodstuffs that have been doctored with large percentages of water and other non-nutrient additives at hugely inflated prices and under fancy names, at the same time removing the products from the scope of the foodstuffs laws."

The Consumers Association Study Group in Bonn criticises: "Slimming foods in general are dangerously misleading and deceptive for people who are genuinely worried about being overweight."

"Slimming food" is in itself a misleading expression giving the impression that the item can make people slimmer. Foods may be calorie reduced but a calorie's a calorie just the same no matter whether it is contained in a thick soup or a watery one.

Anyone who eats enough – or too much – of a so-called slimming food will put on just as much as he would with his fill of normal food. Most of the trickery is self-deception – people scoff cream buns and then put saccharine preparations in their coffee to boast that they have given up sugar!

The latest lines in slimming food aim more at trimming the plump person's wallet than his prosperity fat. A survey conducted in Bavaria recently discovered that a tin of "slimming" chicken soup cost between 2.90 and 3.90 Marks. Because it is dubbed "slimming" it is obviously hoped that the consumer will not think twice about the ridiculously high price. Another example is the marga-



rine which avoids the regulations stipulating a minimum eighty per cent fat content. As it is for slimmers it contains only forty per cent fat.

So, although this margarine is largely water, it costs as much as or even more than a more nutritious normal brand from sunflower seed oil or the like. When the EEC wanted to raise the minimum fat content of margarine to European standards by two per cent the industry reckoned this would of necessity increase the price. So what is the logic behind a margarine with only half as much fat costing more!

As waistlines supposedly become slimmer the slimming market expands in inverse proportion. Many supermarkets already have special shelves and counters for OS customers. Consumers are lured with adjectives such as "slimming, healthy and dietetic". But in the industry's publications the advertising is far more honest and direct. Grocers are urged to "set the tills ringing" rather than concern themselves overmuch about the size of their customers.

To redress the balance one or two products on this market are worthy of note. Some special sausages are on sale with the proportion of albumen calories increased as opposed to the number of calories contained in fatty materials. Some cheeses and breads have the fat content reduced and the milk albumen content increased.

Foodstuffs of this kind can help improve the appalling diets of many Germans. An excess of fat and dearth of albumen is one of the reasons why paunches develop and health suffers. But the problem is not solved in foodstuffs where the fat content is replaced by valueless water, where substances that fill the belly without feeding the body are added and where chemicals are thrown in with side effects that cannot be foreseen.

To stay healthy and slim or to remove unwanted pounds it is essential to have a balanced, varied and natural diet with a correct balance of fats, albumen and carbohydrates. And the most important rule is to stop eating at the right point.

Detlev Richter

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 15 April 1972)

ROAD SAFETY

Safety belts are a must for motor vehicles

There were 160 road deaths over the Easter holidays again this year. Had victims only worn safety belts half of them could still have been alive today, medical and road safety experts agree.

"Two out of four motorists killed at the wheel could still be alive if they had fastened their safety belts," says Professor Gögler, the well-known Heidelberg surgeon and accident research specialist.

"And three out of four people sustaining serious injuries," he adds, "would escape either with no more than the shock or merely a few cuts and bruises."

The same conclusion has been reached by Opel engineers and doctors conducting a survey of the 8,600 traffic accidents involving fatal injuries in 1970.

They all urgently recommend motorists to wear safety belts, particularly in city traffic. Three quarters of all accidents occur at speeds of less than sixty kilometres an hour (35 mph).

Even when the speed on impact is a mere twenty kilometres (twelve miles) an hour not even the most bulging muscles are powerful enough to keep the steering wheel at arm's length. The driver would have to hold off a strain equivalent to seven times his own weight.

At fifty kilometres an hour (thirty mph) a motorist weighing 75 kilogrammes has to withstand a momentum equivalent to 750 kilos. To do so within thirty centimetres (a foot) — as a safety belt does — he would need to pack 2,500 kilogrammes of punch. The world weight-lifting record at present stands at a mere 220 kilos.

What a trained athlete cannot do the safety belt can. It will absorb 2,500 kilogrammes or a little over two tons of forward momentum on impact.

Put in more graphic terms the force of impact in a collision at fifty kilometres an hour is equivalent to that of a man jumping from a height of ten metres (*33 ft*) or *the roof of a three-storey house*.

Concertina zones at the front and rear of a car are neither here nor there. A motorist who is not strapped in will carry on travelling at the speed the vehicle had on the clock at the moment of impact.

The speed of travel of someone who has his safety belt fastened is, in contrast, retarded to the same extent as the vehicle is stopped in its tracks. Once again, the laws of mechanics are blithely ignorant of the existence of concertina zones or the like.

There is, for instance, a world of difference between jumping from a height of three metres on to foam rubber, turf and concrete.

The safety belt wearer rebounds as though he were landing on foam rubber, whereas the unprotected motorist is catapulted against the interior fittings of the vehicle. Accident researchers have determined that two out of three collisions involve the front of a vehicle.

The reaction on many people's part is to clamour for legislation. Safety belts ought to be made mandatory, they feel. Yet they are far from in the majority. According to a survey carried out on behalf of the Ministry of Transport 71 per cent of driving licence-holders are not in favour of a regulation of this kind.

Sixty-nine per cent of those questioned declared that it was up to the individual to decide whether or not to wear safety belts.

What, then, about an insurance bonus for belt-users? Insurance companies will hear nothing of the idea. You can tell whether a car is fitted out with belts, they argue, but it is anybody's guess whether the driver ever uses them.

"Discount for belt-users might well be negligible," a spokesman for the Association of Motor Vehicle Insurers comments. "Either way, a safety belt bonus can only be considered once there is some mechanism ensuring that the motorist actually uses his belt."

This mechanism has yet to be developed. At least, it is not yet marketed. Prototypes are undergoing trials at Daimler-Benz and the research laboratories of belt manufacturers.

The Mercedes system involves the belt being fastened automatically without the intervention of either driver or passengers. The mechanism is triggered off by the closing of the doors.

This concept is a little on the expensive side since the anchorage point must be in the door and the door must be reinforced accordingly. The advantage is, of course, that a reinforced door affords better protection in the event of aside-on crashes.

The next step is for manufacturers to equip all new vehicles with three-point conventional belts as a standard fitting. Then there will be warning devices to remind the motorist that he has forgotten to fasten his safety belt. As in the present Ford Thunderbird they will be optical and/or acoustic.

Ernst Baetge

(Welt am Sonntag, 13 April 1972)

SPD MPs as drink-and-drive guinea pigs

Social Democratic transport specialists in the Bundestag are not to be outdone in the debate on lowering the level of blood alcohol at which a driver is deemed to be driving under the influence of drink. They plan to have a drink on it.

Realising that it is difficult to reach a convincing conclusion at the conference table the SPD committee members deliberating on the problem decided that the proof of the pudding is in the eating, in this case the drinking.

According to the Social Democratic parliamentary party they will submit themselves to medically supervised tests in order to determine the effect of alcohol on their reactions at the wheel. They then plan to hold a public hearing on the subject.

(Nordwest Zeitung, 13 April 1972)

Minister pleads for standard bumper height

Heinz Herbert Karry, Hesse's Minister of Trade and Technology, would like car bumpers to be at a uniform height. Transport Minister Leber feels there to be no prospect of a legislative solution of this important problem but Herr Karry reckons a standard bumper height to be absolutely essential.

With bumpers at varying heights engine, suspension and wheel damage frequently occur as a result of minor accidents. Ve... are put out of action and represent a further traffic hazard because they then have to be towed out of the fray.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 20 April 1972)

AVIATION

VFW 614 trials resumed after crash setback

Hannoversche Presse

Following publication of the Civil Aviation Office report on the crash of the prototype, VFW-Fokker have undertaken a revision of the VFW 614 programme.

In addition to intensive ground trials of the second prototype at Lemwerder works airstrip, Bremen, beginning at the end of March alterations are to be made to the VFW 614's steering system.

The aim is to ensure a particularly high safety margin in relation to flutter. Flight trials are scheduled for resumption later this summer.

The CAO report comes to the following preliminary conclusions on the basis of investigations so far. "Evaluation of instrument recordings (on board the plane that crashed) has revealed that the flutter was due in all probability to a virtually antisymmetrical shaking of the elevator and elevator controls of limited amplitude.

"Investigations are still in progress to pinpoint the cause of flutter. Instrument readings and components recovered indicate that the aircraft was still manoeuvrable despite trouble on the lateral axis since the elevator continued to function.

"It may *nonetheless* be assumed that the overall behaviour of the aircraft, particularly the flutter of the steering column, seriously impaired the crew's ability to assess the gravity of the situation, creating the impression that the machine was out of control ..."

In order to forestall ambiguous interpretation of the findings of the report the VFW-Fokker management immediately on publication emphasised that "in critical circumstances the senior pilot must make a decision to the best of his ability."

"We are convinced," the firm commented, "that the pilot did so in the circumstances, bearing in mind the criteria at his disposal."

The report was produced in record time, the recovery and investigation teams of the CAO and VFW-Fokker working almost round the clock to locate parts of the wreck and evaluate data. A Bundeswehr pioneer unit also lent valuable assistance.

One particularly fortunate coincidence that helped to accelerate reconstruction of the accident was the recovery intact and at short intervals of first the magnetic tape, second the flight data recoder and third the cockpit voice recorder. The data contained in all three was evaluated in almost its entirety.

At VFW's Lemwerder works ground trials of the second prototype machine are under way and scheduled for completion by the end of April. The existing indirect elevator controls with sprung rudder will then be replaced by direct, servo-assisted mechanical steering.

Hydraulic steering, which is customary in jet airliners, provides a greater measure of safety from flutter.

Delivery date autumn 1974

Ground trials and further work in preparation for the resumption of flight trials have made it appear advisable not to exhibit the VFW 614 at the Hanover air show as this would entail a delay of several weeks.

The Federal government has declared its readiness as a matter of principle to continue to lend support to the VFW 614 programme and development of the Rolls Royce Snecma M 45 engine.

The first VFW 614 will be marketed as of autumn 1974 or thereabouts.

Dr Rolf Stüssel

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 20 April 1972)

European airbus programme runs according to schedule

Hannoversche Allgemeine

Over the last three years the European airbus has progressed from project to product according to schedule. The project was at long last given the go-ahead at the end of May 1969 when Economic Affairs Minister Schiller of this country and Transport Minister Chamant of France appended their signatures to the airbus agreement between the two countries.

The agreement provided for the development and construction of four flight prototypes and two fuselages for static and dynamic tests.

In Toulouse, where the components are finally assembled, the first airbus prototype is under construction and should be airborne before the year is out.

The other prototypes provided for under the terms of the agreement are also at various stages of assembly. What is more, last December manufacture of components for the first series airbus commenced.

All in all, the development and production schedule for the European airbus has been adhered to with remarkable accuracy. It is a matter not only of deadlines but also cost and quality, likewise running to plan.

By the terms of the airbus agreement the main contractors to Deutsche Airbus GmbH are Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm and VFW-Fokker. Their counterpart in France is Aérospatiale.

They have been joined as sub-contractors by Hawker Siddeley of Britain, Fokker of Holland and CASA of Spain.

The airbus's General Electric CF 6-50 jet engines are being manufactured by Snecma of France and MTU of this country. It is worth noting that both firms have been partly responsible for the development of technologically interesting components.

In addition to precise fulfilment of the technological and organisational programme initial sales successes have been notched up for the A 300 B airbus.

In November 1971 Air France bought six B 2 versions of the airbus with increased passenger capacity and placed an option on a urther ten.

In February 1972 Iberia, the Spanish airline, ordered four airbuses and took out an option for a further eight. Iberia opted for the B 4 version, which is equal in size to the Air France choice but has an increased range of 2,500 miles.

A crucial factor in the implementation of the entire programme including series production has been the readiness of the Bonn government in the shape of the Economic Affairs Ministry to lend financial support to the project over and beyond the initial agreement.

The final decision by Bonn was reached in December 1971. In addition to agreeing to underwrite development costs of the B 2 and B 4 versions in extension of the provisions of the original agreement the Cabinet decided to back 500 million Marks worth of series production expenditure, thus making possible the manufacture of the initial run of eight aircraft.

By so doing and by further accepting a suggestion by Deutsche Airbus GmbH that Bonn underwrite the customary credit facilities the Federal government expressly lent the airbus project full support for longer than the term of the initial development agreement.

At present it seems more than likely that the airbus will take to the air for the first time before the end of 1972 as intended. It will be licensed roughly a year later and flying for Air France by 1974.

Hajo Hoymar

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 20 April 1972)

First jumbo jet freighter flies from Frankfurt to New York

Before even embarking on its first scheduled flight from Frankfurt to New York on 19 April, a route it will ply twice a week, the Boeing 747 F, the world's largest commercial jet freighter, has already earned itself a selection of nicknames.

It has been described as a beetle swallower, a reference to its digestion capacity of no fewer than six dozen Volkswagen Beetles, and as a flying freight train, a reference to the 747 F's formidable freight capacity of 670 cubic metres (870 cubic yards).

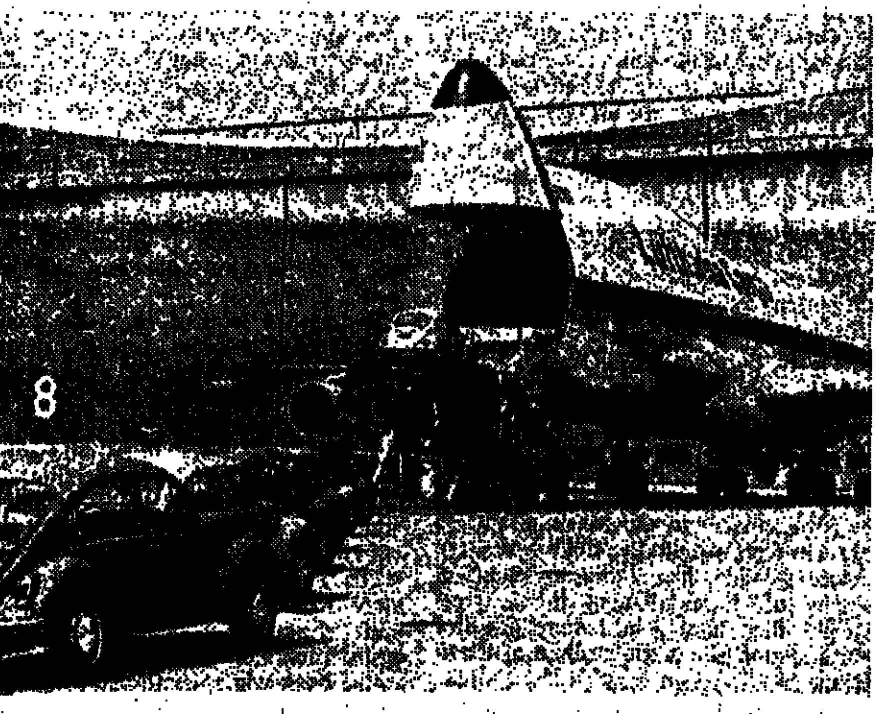
On a test flight over Hamburg the 747 F has even transported two complete aircraft in its ample guts — two lightweight Cessna 177 Cardinals. Like all items of cargo it will ever take on, the two aircraft taxied into its waiting maw.

Lufthansa is the first airline in the world to take delivery of this technological masterpiece manufactured by Boeing at a cost of 92 million Marks a time. This no doubt accounts for the expensive naming ceremony held in the jumbo hangar at Lufthansa's Frankfurt facilities and attended by 1,200 guests from all over the world.

Lufthansa are indeed pioneering the jumbo feighter. So far they are the only airline to have ordered the 747 F.

Professor Hans Süssenguth of the Lufthansa board stood at the ready in the gaping loading bay of the jumbo freighter, complete with lectern, floral decorations and the wherewithal for wishing the airline's latest jumbo baby well.

The cargo capacity of the 747 F is equivalent to two 707 C planeloads.



Lufthansa's Cargonaut, the world's first and so far only jumbo jet freighter, takes on a payload of six dozen Volkswagen Beetles (Photo: Lufthansa)

Lufthansa, Professor Süssenguth noted, had carefully considered whether the investment was worthwhile and had finally decided in its favour with the aim of making air freight yet faster, more rationalised and more economic.

Herbert Baunagel, head of the air cargo research department of FIATA, likewise felt that the use of this jumbo freighter would cast air freight in an entirely new light.

The first 747 F was accordingly named Cargonaut by 47-year-old Lufthansa warehouseman Wolfgang Eberhardt and no sooner had it tasted the champagne customary on the occasion than the newly-christened jumbo gave a demonstration of its abilities.

A special crane has been developed to facilitate transfor of palettes. Containers can be on and off-loaded electronically but mixed cargo is also a possibility and the jumbo's computer is specially programmed to cope with every eventuality.

The Cargonaut can be fully laden within three quarters of an hour with the aid of only two operatives. En route it is staffed solely by a crew consisting of captain, co-pilot and flight engineer.

If animals are transported the temperature can be regulated as required and an attendant will accompany them.

Incidentally, the Cargonaut is just as fast as jumbo passenger airliners. Indeed, it has one distinct advantage over conventional jumbos; it will not be troubled by the teething troubles of the new terminal facilities at Frankfurt's Rhine-Main airport.

Jutta W. Thomasius

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 18 April 1972)





■ BOOKS

Psychology of reading probed at Konstanz congress

DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG
Christ und Welt

Public opinion polls conducted by the Allensbach Institute have shown that though 33 per cent of the population are forced to read files, timetables, reports, newspapers or specialist literature during the course of their work only ten per cent of all West Germans read books.

Compared with the educational aims of our society and the expense involved in pursuing these aims, this is a depressing result especially as the pollsters suggest that readers are more active people.

The *Börsenverein* of the West German book trade, interested in rearing a wide reading public if only for commercial reasons, therefore commissioned Cologne psychologist Professor Wilhelm Salber to conduct a survey on the psychology surrounding reading.

Salber published his first findings in the autumn of 1971. The abridged book version appeared as volume six of the book trade series under the zippy title *Lesen und Lesen lassen* (Read and let read).

But the study was not so easily readable as the title suggested and although a few thousand copies were distributed there was no response. That may have been why the *Börsenverein* decided to devote the thirteenth Konstanz Literary Congress to the psychology of reading. The congress was attended by publishers, booksellers and journalists from West Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

It was at first planned to invite qualified experts to the congress but the few specialists there are – in the United States, the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic – were unable to attend.

Chairman Peter Kliemann therefore had to make do with the only West German specialist, Wilhelm Salber, and a few friendly helpers. That was why it was difficult to deal critically with the results of Salber's survey especially as he was unable to break down his hermetic terminology into easily understandable language.

What did become plain was that no information about the reasons for reading can be gained by attributing the incentive to read to the various types of reader or non-reader personalities.

That would mean that the structure of motivations would remain unresearched and the possibility of changing reading habits productively would be restricted.

But a strategy involving readership training is needed if we are to break out of the vicious circle in which people who want to read are considered intelligent and people who are intelligent also want to read (due not least to the fact that the intelligent normally attend better places of education where they are better conditioned to reading).

Salber's survey shows that incentives to read or not read do not result from simple urges. Instead, they are closely linked with a person's mental faculties whereby reading in its turn affects a person's mental make-up and the brain's stimulation centre.

These interconnections and retroactions make it necessary to know about the motivations connected with reading or not reading. Only then can they be changed. Only then can a refusal to read, inhibitions or a one-sided programming where books are concerned be gradually overcome by a specific educational strategy.

The congress asked in vain for information about whether and if so in what form the findings of Wilhelm Salber's study on the psychology of reading were already practicable.

At least one important finding could be adopted in practice today. It is evident that the fixing of reading lists and the selection of the largely rigid collection of valid literary works can have a detrimental effect when training children to read. Why are young readers not offered a number of opportunities to use their own judgement when selecting a book?

It was also decided at the congress that research into the structure of incentives to read is not only important for advertising undertaken by the book trade. It is also of basic significance for all types of educational reform.

The ability to do independent reading in order to take on and solve problems, clarify ideas and control urges is becoming an indispensable requirement for adult members of our society.

Günther Schloz
(Deutsche Zeitung, 14 April 1972)

FVS award for Paul Scofield

Paul Scofield was awarded the 1972 Shakespeare Prize donated by the F.V.S. Foundation of Hamburg together with 25,000 Marks at a special ceremony at Hamburg City Hall on 6 April.

Rudolf Haas, the Hamburg Professor of English, made the awarding speech. Scofield, he said, was one of Britain's leading actors, a Shakespeare interpreter of international standing and a former co-director of the Royal Shakespeare Company that had become an ambassador of English literature and acting to the whole world.

Scofield thanked the Foundation for the honour it had conferred on him by quoting from the works of Shakespeare.

The scholarship awarded together with the prize was given at Scofield's suggestion to David Fielding, who will now spend a year at a West German university.

Past holdrs of the award include Peter Hall, Graham Greene, Roy Pascal, Harold Pinter and Janet Baker.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 7 April 1972)

Exiled writers' conference in Regensburg

DIE WELT

Regensburg, for centuries the centre of lively cultural links with Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, was the venue of the German-language section of the Exile Pen Club.

Writers from countries under Communist regimes celebrated the twentieth anniversary of their club and discussed the position of writers in both East and West.

Pavel Tigrid, a Czech who now lives in Paris where he publishes the periodical *Svědectví*, gave the main talk. Tigrid, who was sentenced in his absence to a long term of imprisonment in Czechoslovakia in 1967, spoke of the heroism of many writers and authors in Eastern Europe, a heroism that was largely ignored in the West.

He cited as an example the wife of Russian writer Yuli Daniel, Larissa, who plucked up the courage to protest in public against the occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1968 despite the fact that her husband had been arrested and that she was subject to the constant supervision of the Soviet political police.

Dr A. Kratochvil, the newly-elected secretary-general of the Exile Pen Club stated in his speech of thanks that the exiled writers must continue the traditions of Eastern European writers.

The livliest impulses for the literature and society of Eastern Europe had always come from men of *letters* who lived in exile in the West and who saw themselves never as pure men of letters, but as the democratic opposition against the dictatorship in their homeland, he explained.

"The present is once again comparable with the past," Dr Kratochvil said, referring to the latest developments in the countries of Eastern Europe.

The sixty or so exiled writers and journalists attending the Regensburg congress also elected their new executive. Hungarian writer Julius Hay was elected honorary president and K.G. W[illegible], another Hungarian who left his country before the Second World War, became president. One of the vice-presidents is Julius Firt who together with Karel Capek founded the Czech Pen Club in Prague in 1925.

Members and guests from the United States, Italy, France and Britain listened with interest to the speeches given by Thilo Koch, Rudolf Krämer-Badoni and Gerhard Zwerenz in their capacity as representatives of the West German Pen Club.

Rudolf Krämer-Badoni's speech on personal liberty and the freedom to write that is the basic condition for all literary production was listened to with sympathy.

Zwerenz' attacks on the two Munich-based transmitters Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe were incomprehensible. Zwerenz, many people said, had presumably forgotten that these transmitters were often the only source of information for the population of Eastern Europe and the only platform from which the work of authors living in freedom could reach their intended audience.

This work is not negligible, as shown by an exhibition of books written by Eastern European authors though published in the West. The three hundred or so Czech and Slovak works appearing between 1948 and 1971 provide the best proof that exiled writers form a lasting part of the culture that is oppressed in their homeland.

Rudolf Ströbinger
(Die Welt, 15 April 1972)

Children as readers and televiewers

Delegates attending the eighteenth Children's Books Congress were asked to discuss a completely new subject – the role of children's literature in the mass media.

Talks on "Records for children" by Konrad Kallbach of Hanover, "Television and the young consumer" by Dietrich Fischer of Kiel and "Criteria for a producer of children's broadcasts" by Wolfgang Buresch of Norddeutscher Rundfunk and record manufacturer E.L. Frauenberger of Munich showed clearly that records are more popular than parents or other people reading a book out loud and that television is the favourite leisure-time activity of young Germans.

Children spend an average of 86 minutes to two hours in front of the screen every day and as many as four of five hours a day at weekends. This, Fischer claims, means the elimination of family life.

There are some seven hundred non-music records specifically intended for children. Although fairy-tales only make up about 35 per cent of the total the fairy-tale treatment given to other fiction (about 75 to 80 per cent) is not justified, Kallbach states, as young people are more and more concerned with reality.

The Friedrich Bödeker Circle and the Education and Science Trade Union have issued a guide to give a better idea of what records are available. As all fairy-tale and Karl May records are catalogued it tends to resemble a general stock-list. But there does seem to be a lively interconnection between books and records.

In Eastern European countries whole editorial staffs are occupied with the dramatic preparation of a record while in West Germany the technician is left on his own. He must fnd his own actors as well as provide the sound-effects.

As profit alone is the determining factor in record production in this country, the artistic standard cannot be so high as in countries where records are produced with particular care and with attention to psychological findings and aesthetic yardsticks.

Eighty per cent of all West Germans watch television. When delegates were booking for the congress there was a recognisable tendency for them to choose the working group dealing with television.

An excursion to the television studios in Stuttgart would therefore have been more sensible than a trip to Tübingen. Many of those attending the congress might then have gained more practical information about the medium of television.

The only West German expert in this field had to leave the congress and he handed over the control of the working group to an Austrian colleague who only had one film as the basis for three discussions.

The discussion would soon have been over if new subject-matter and new problems had not been raised by foreign delegates. Otto Hoffmann, the prominent Czech producer, was present and he could have easily staged a rehearsal of one of his productions. A great chance was missed.

Radio too would have deserved some attention in view of the many representatives from broadcasting stations attending the congress. Unfortunately this medium was not discussed.

In future more care must also be paid to the technical preparation of the congress of this type. Only one monitor was available to the eighty delegates. Apart from that there was an almost complete lack of even the most necessary and usual technical aids.

Though the work done in the groups concerned with comic strips and records was intensive and fruitful, many wishes went unanswered. The proposal that the next congress should be devoted to linguistics and the children's book was rejected even though the proposer thought he was capable of outlining the problems of this science from Wittgenstein to Chomsky.

The writers of children's books shied away from such dilettantism. They would prefer the choice of a similar subject once again. Then more attention could be paid to the book which is after all the basis of so many radio and television broadcasts and so many records and comic strips.

Gerda Neumann
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 14 April 1972)

■ ART

Berlin free art exhibition mushrooms

Kieler Nachrichten

Berlin's Free Art Exhibition grows and grows. Last year 25 groups with 740 artists took part, this year it is 29 groups with 940 exhibitors. As far as *quantity* is concerned the democratisation that the exhibition organisers announced last year is an unqualified success. But success partly at the expense of quality, a matter about which opinions are most divergent.

Perhaps those who claim that an uncensored exhibition, in which the *Aktionsgemeinschaft Berliner Amateurmaler* has as much say as the *Gruppe der malenden Arbeiter* in the art community *Rote Nelke*, cannot be excellent are right. Perhaps it can be no better than this exhibition at the TV tower turned out to be.

If you sought to pigeonhole the style of the "free Berliners" the only category that came to mind would be "pluralism", the exhibition providing a coexistence of movements and schools. The days of bitter fighting over various directions are past and gone.

The immaterialists have lost their predominance and the materialists, ranging from the honest old Realists and Pop-Artists to Fantastic Realism, have gained sway. A little Op and a touch of material painting come through. The overall picture would have been uniform if the 29 groups had not counteracted monotony with structural formation.

Sometimes we get the impression, however, that the founders of these art movements were not too serious in their intentions and that they are far removed from going to the barricades for anything at all, even for themselves.

They like to seem relaxed, a man of the world and a man about town, a superior being; force bathos out, force humour in. One group for instance calls itself *Strohfeuer* (Nine-day wonder). For *Gruppe Lügenfrei* (No lies) centring on artist Werner Hilsing the filmmaker Ulrich Schamoni has drummed up a Dürer self-portrait as a belated *de rigueur* exercise for the Dürer Year. And in the "Freundeskreis" section we see two well-tended rabbits. Joker Johannes Grützke, who must be taken seriously as an artist, claims that the one is doing better than the other because his food is enriched with the active ingredient "Freundeskreisin". Here we have reached the point where art and a joke blur into one another.

The transition between art and agitation is marked by the groups S.S.S.S.S. (your guess is as good as mine!) and *Rote Nelke* (Red carnation) who make their anti-Capitalism point among other things with a written-off Mercedes in which a cardboard Capitalist is trying to protect himself against the anger of the People with a cardboard gunman. Their message is that Capitalism lives on whether you like it or not.

But there are three or four groups that could show their faces in any cultural capital in the world and who are serious about art in the more traditional sense.

This applies for instance to the young team of artists in the self-supporting gallery Kwarz and for the group "Plastik Berlin 71", containing such notable sculptors as Joachim Dunkel, Volkmar Haase, Waldemar Otto and Joachim Schmettau.

During the run of the exhibition sculptor Klaus Grosskopf has partly moved his studio to the *Plastik Berlin 71* quarters. He is working before an audience and thus helping the public to understand better the sculptor's job of creation. This is indeed a more graphic method than even the best introductory lecture could be.

The best group is reckoned to be *Aspekt* which is a collection of Berlin's Realists such as Ulrich Baehr and Hans-Jürgen Diehl, Arwed D. Gorella and Wolfgang Petrick and Peter Sorge and Jürgen Waller.

It is with this group that the exhibition and perhaps postwar painting in Berlin as a whole gain relevance and a place in the history of art. This collection of brilliantly painted, aggressive pictures provides the proof that the democratisation I mentioned at the beginning of the article is not linked *a priori* and in each and every case with a loss of quality.

Hellmut Kotschenreuther
(Kieler Nachrichten, 14 April 1972)



An oil-painting by Ronnie Elliott from the Hamburg exhibition of American women artists (Photo: Katalog)

French cartoons at Karlsruhe

Germain Pilon's design for the tomb of a mother superior of a convent was one of the exhibits of 200 French drawings executed between 1530 and 1830 and shown at Karlsruhe (Photo: Katalog)

Expressionists in Stuttgart

One of the most important private collections of paintings, watercolours and sculptures by the German Expressionists is on loan to the Stuttgart Staatsgalerie. It is the Erna Lütze collection.

It consists of 108 works by artists such as Beckmann, Kirchner, Corinth, Schmidt-Rottluff, Lehmbruck, Barlach, Marcks, Kollwitz and Rohlfs.

Other works in the collection are *Die kleinen blauen Pferde* by Franz Marc, *Der Citronengarten* by Emil Nolde and two large "Figurenbilder" by Otto Müller.

The exhibition which has already been on show in Hamburg will probably be at the Stuttgart Staatsgalerie in June this year.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 12 April 1972)

Max Ernst in Bonn

Bonn is preparing an extensive ceremony in honour of the artist and scuptor Max Ernst. The philosophy faculty at Bonn University will award an honorary doctorate to Ernst who was born in Brühl near Bonn in 1891 and who now lives in the South of France.

A University spokesman said that the award ceremony would take place on 8 May. On the same day the Wünsche Gallery is opening an extensive Max Ernst exhibition. This will go on for several weeks.

At the ceremony in Bonn University the address will be given by Professor Eduard Trier, a friend of Ernst's for many years.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 5 April 1972)

American women artists show up well in Hamburg

American woman artists feel there is discrimination against them. They believe that museums, galleries, universities and colleges in the United States do not give them equal opportunities. The fact of being the fairer sex seems to be a handicap to an artistic career in precisely the country where there is a marked feminist cult and influential women's organisations.

Lil Picard, a renowned New York "Message" Artist says it is "a milestone on the road to equality for women" that an exhibition of 46 American women artists has been opened in Hamburg entitled "American Woman Artist Show".

The exhibition came into being as a result of the initiative of Sibylle Niester, the Chairman of GEDOK, the organisation founded as long ago as 1926 by Ida Dehmel, the wife of poet Richard Dehmel, for the emancipation of women artists. Prior to 1933 many famous women belonged to it, including Käthe Kollwitz, Anette Kolb, Mary Wigman and Ida Kerkovius.

Sibylle Niester and Lil Picard (a *Die Welt* art reviewer for many years) worked in close cooperation to plumb New York's multifarious art scene and came across a selection of works that offers a broad sweep of contemporary American art.

The art show covers three floors at the Alster Kunsthaus and visitors may well ask themselves why so much emphasis is laid on the sex of the artist. None of the works bears an unmistakable stamp of femininity and all of it matches up to the standards of the most important art of our time.

The collection reflects practically all the trends of contemporary New York art production; trends that are also alive in the Federal Republic. There are examples of Pop-Art, painted posters, Object Art and Material Alienation, Happenings and Ritual, Concept-Art and Neo-Realism.

With an imaginative arrangement of the works and a varied environment the exhibition is built up into a satisfactory whole which draws the viewer completely into the aesthetic happening.

One of the most fascinating curios at the show is Stella Waitzkin's *Burial of the Film*, an assembly which presents the artist as a lifesize wax figure lying in a coffin surrounded by untold strips of film, which are supposed to represent "the death of unfulfilled wishes".

Lil Picard too is there to take part in a moving "Newspaper Ritual" in which she appears as an actress in a costume made of newspapers and acts with great *élan*.

Louise Nevelson is the most famous actress of the group. She put on show a black iron sculpture with severe lines. Martha Edelheit's penetrating Neo-Realism is highly interesting and her male nude studies give rise to many psychological considerations.

An astonishing number of these women artists still move within the realms of the informal that is at this stage carried over to the three-dimensional. Among these are Nina Yankowitz with her pull-out reliefs, Maud Boltz with her "rope and string sculptures", Hannah Wilke with her "soft robber"-net compositions and Branda Miller with her tapestries of shreds of pictures.

Marjorie Strider allows her foam creations to overflow from the room and hang from the window as a kind of signal to the outside world that these highly active and imaginative women artists from the USA are in town.

Hanns Theodor Flemming
(Die Welt, 15 April 1972)

■ EDUCATION

Poles and Germans rewrite history text-books

Eighteen Polish and 45 West German experts recently attended a series of meetings in Brunswick to come to an agreement over important stages in the history of the centuries of relations between their two nations and to represent them in such a way that they will not prove a threat to the future as they appear in school text-books.

A similiar conference was held in Warsaw between 22 and 26 February 1972. The organiser of the Brunswick conference was Georg Eckert, a professor of history in the city, president of the West German Unesco Commission and recognised the world over as a person who takes the "venom" out of school text-books.

It was he who coined the motto for the conference: "There is no Polish truth and no German truth. We would get nowhere if we wanted to maintain differences. The result is sometimes unpleasant for us and sometimes unpleasant for the Poles."

The material was devided among three groups. The mediaeval group was headed by Professor Ludat of Giessen, the 1914–1933 group by Professor Eckert and the geography group by Professors Wöhlke of Berlin and Karger of Tübingen.

Professor Eckert's group had without doubt the most delicate subject – Versailles ("For us an imposed peace, for the Poles the beginning of their new State," Eckert commented), Danzig, the Corridor and Upper Silesia with its ethnographical, denominational and social questions.

The Polish guests conceded the point that their countrymen had developed a Prussian idea of State and a regional awareness in Silesia and that the Poles had meant to present the Germans with a fait accompli with the Silesian uprising before plebiscite of 1921. "Upper Silesia is no longer such a painful issue as it was in my youth," Eckert comments.

The Poles accepted these ideas about Upper Silesia in the same way as the Germans attending the Warsaw meeting had adopted the view that Poland was to be liquidated as a State and nation and its intelligentsia and culture exterminated under the Hitler regime.

The leader of the Polish delegation, the Warsaw social scientist Professor Wladyslaw Markiewicz, had himself suffered under Hitler's plans. At the age of nineteen he was sent to the concentration camp at Mauthausen with its notorious quarries. He was not freed until the end of the war.

But Markiewicz feels no bitterness. He says without pathos: "Because of Mauthausen I decided to devote myself to the work we are now doing. Such things as happened in the past must not be allowed to recur."

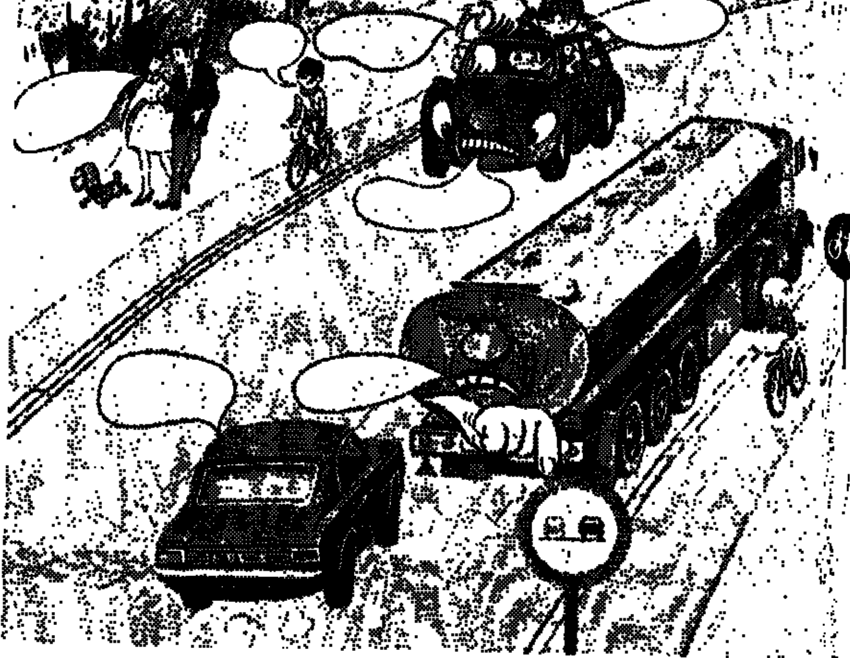
But Professor Markiewicz expects ideological inhibitions to affect discussion of the most delicate stage in relations between the two countries – post-1945. He does not however believe that the present conference will get as far as to study contemporary history. That will probably be left to the next one of the series.

Eckert on the other hand would at least like to touch upon this period with the most delicate problems of all – the Oder-Neisse Line and the expulsion of Germans from all points East of it.

Eckert reveals a little of his own thoughts on the issue: "It cannot be denied that the Eastern and Western frontiers of Poland have shifted westwards. Recognition is a question of power and politics. We on the other hand cannot forget our memories of these areas. I cannot say that Kant came from Kaliningrad. For me he came from Königsberg. On the other hand when I buy a ticket to Breslau nothing can be changed about the fact that I arrive in Wroclaw. There can be neither victors nor vanquished during our talks."

Josef Schmidt

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 15 April 1972)



(Photo: Karl Hülsm

Comic strip popularises road safety

More than a thousand children die every year on roads in North Rhine-Westphalia alone. The increasing motorisation and traffic density suggests that this alarming figure will rise, especially as few children are made sufficiently aware of the dangers of road traffic.

But this is now to change. Seven happy comic-strip characters have decided not to look on inactive. Peter, Karin, Susi, Hans, Klaus, Volkswagen Max and a policeman will teach old and young alike about road safety.

The idea is the brainchild not of the police or a team of children's psychiatrists but of Karl Hülsmann, 42, of Ratingen-Tiefenbroich near Düsseldorf.

Last summer Hülsmann, himself the father of two children and head of a travel concern, hit upon the idea of replacing the road safety courses arranged by the authorities and other organisations by a comic strip tailor-made for children.

Supported by educationalists and police officials, Hülsmann got down to work. First-class illustrators drew the ten of the forty colour frames in which speech bubbles point out the dangers most frequently facing children on the roads.

But the readers are not lectured. Even the happy policeman – complete with crash helmet and speedy motor cycle – avoids this approach. He only gives advice when asked by the children.

Hülsmann has invested several thousand Marks in his idea and has postponed building the house he planned. The reward for his efforts came when educationalists and police officials stated they were impressed by the seven comic-strip characters. Police Inspector Emil Seitz described Hülsmann's work as a guide that must be given support.

Hülsmann plans to help parents as well as children. In order to be in a position to answer the questions of their offspring the appropriate regulations of the road traffic laws appear in small print under each frame.

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 7 April 1972)

School text-books' view of life is way behind the times

School text-books have been a favourite target of sociologists, psychologists and educationalists for quite some time now. The critical arguments have often become stereotyped and led to criticism of original criticisms.

As with criticism of the mass media as a whole, the critics have concentrated their attention on how German history is treated in schoolbooks. They have also discussed the anachronistic way in which traditional society is pictured.

However the criticism is expressed, it is always focussed on the discrepancy between the reality that the child can observe today from a number of sources and the reality as presented in school text-books.

Pupils can pass their spare time watching television reports of moon landings or political demonstrations but when at school they are often transported back to the nineteenth-century world of the school reader.

While the sower sows and the reaper reaps and the roses bloom on the heath, the cows low and the babbling brook helps mill the miller's flour, the children are accompanied on their way home to television by the cars racing through built-up areas, by distrustful pedestrians and cursing bus-conductors.

Alphons Silbermann and Udo Michael Krüger, the Cologne sociologists and communications scientists, recently provided proof of the shortcomings of the school syllabus in their analytical study of the role of women in school readers.

Young girls who now find themselves in an age where the traditional role of the female is changing must be surprised to read in their readers of mothers who, worn out by care and worry, do nothing but run their home.

A reader for nine-year-olds for example states "Mother has a lot to do and no time to rest or rue: cooking, baking, washing, sewing, cleaning, scrubbing, knitting from dawn to dusk, she's always on the go."

And what mother does so diligently serves as an example that young girls must copy. Another passage from the same reader seems to suggest that anyway: "I'm a fine girl, I can spin, mend my stockings, sew pockets and clean the house. I can sing and jump and bake and cook the meat and the bones."

Females are not only bound to the home and housework in readers for the younger school classes as a quotation from a reader for secondary schools shows: "The person who organises the home, rears the children and gives the world around her form and content is the constant renovator of culture, civilisation and human virtue. When a woman has taken on this difficult and responsible duty and fulfilled this creative task she may proudly state that her profession is housewife."

Young girls are thus provided with ideals that must lead to conflicts or states of insecurity in view of the demands placed on girls and young women today.

Most readers are years old. Females appearing in them are excluded from professional life because of their lack of career training and instead are forced to take care of the home and family. They read no newspapers and watch no television. They want nothing to do with politics and are not expected to anyway.

In view of examples such as these, little remains of the once-cherished hope that women would in future be treated as equal to men and assume a role of partner in which they could take some of the burden from men's shoulders.

Though the demand to convert the old world featured in readers into the science fiction world of the future may not be what is needed, the public, which after all consists of women as well as men, should call on the government departments responsible for choosing school text-books and ask that women's emancipation should be taken seriously.

(Nordwest Zeitung, 8 April 1972)

Pupils' charter gives children greater say

Hannoversche Allgemeine

Professor Peter von Oertzen, Lower Saxony's Education Minister, plans to extend the present system of pupils having a say in decision-making. One of the planned alterations will allow pupils to decide what form of representation they want as long as democratic principles are heeded.

Regular talks will be held between pupils' representatives and the school so that they can be informed of the most important developments.

The proposals put forward by the Lower Saxon Ministry of Education also want more pupils' representatives to attend teachers' meetings. They would be there in a advisory capacity. As an experiment pupils would also attend the conferences held to award grades.

Major changes will not be undertaken until the expected amendment to the School Administration Act comes into force. A certain amount of decision making powers would then be transferred to the so-called joint committees and parents and pupils would also be given certain privileges.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 14 April 1972)

■ MEDICINE

Nationalisation no answer to health service problems

The spectre of socialisation is going around among practitioners. The fifty thousand doctors working as general practitioners or specialists outside the hospital system, often for sixty or more hours a week, feel challenged and see a threat to the free practice their chosen profession.

Following the economy and the education system, the doctors and the whole of our health service have come to be the *centre* of a political controversy.

Criticism is no longer restricted to pillorying a number of shortcomings and grievances. The medical profession as a whole is being attacked, as in the controversially-written *Spiegel* series entitled "Trade with Sickness".

The system as a whole is being attacked. Olaf Radke of the Metalworkers Union recently stated that West German health policy was determined by doctors' class interests.

He asked whether a State health service with doctors paid by the State was not form of medical care administratively more appropriate to an industrial society.

In fact changes are ocurring in the health service that may be of such decisive importance to doctors as the introduction of sickness insurance *schemes* in 1883.

At that time the family doctor who took care mainly of the less well-situated middle classes became a public doctor available to the whole community.

Today developments have passed the *stage where doctors* were only intended to give aid in cases of sickness. Society now has a right to health. Complaints are no longer accepted as sent by fate as they were in our grandparents' era.

Every person, irrespective of his bank balance, wants to profit from the great advances made by medicine, though the advances have also prompted a certain amount of hypochondria.

Doctors do not only treat acute cases of illness these days. They must also take preventive measures against threats to health and diagnose chronic complaints at early enough a stage.

As a result there is a shortage of doctors in the Federal Republic despite the fact the proportion of doctors here is greater than in almost all comparable Western nations.

This situation is made more acute by the shortage of training places due to university entry restrictions and by the fact that hospitals absorb more and more graduates. More and more medical students also go on to become specialists.

The number of general practitioners has scarcely increased in recent years. Medical care facilities are therefore often inadequate in rural areas and in the outer suburbs of large cities. These shortcomings are becoming more evident with the advance of preventive medicine.

A lot of improvements need to be made within the health service. Greater use must be made of cooperative forms of medical activity. Private and public health centres such as the diagnosis clinics must exist side by side with independent practices. This is a trend that cannot be halted.

The medical profession has recognised this and is prepared for reforms. Doctors reluctant to accept the trend should remember the words of the British moralist Camming which were quoted by Dr Kaspar Roos, head of the Practising Doctors Association, at his organisation's annual congress last autumn: "People who reject improvements today because they are innovations will tomorrow have to accept innovations that are not improvements."

The beginnings of such extreme trends can already be seen. Our sickness insurance system – praised despite its faults – is not to be reformed but turned topsy-turvy.

Some ideologists are turning the question of medical care into an issue connected with the class struggle. The whole matter is being represented as a clash between workers and the ruling classes. Of course socialisation is being recommended as the cure and Radke is not the only person to put forward such demands.

Experiences with State medical schemes in Eastern Europe, Sweden and Britain should however prompt a cautious attitude where the socialisation of medicine is concerned.

Even the study compiled by the Trade Unions Institute for Economic Science does not believe that a fixed income for doctors is to be recommended as experiences have shown that this puts a damper on the will to work and proves an obstacle to the improvement of the health service.

Has anyone asked the patients what they think of the State employing doctors? After all, they are the people who are really affected. So far, patients seem to have full confidence in the doctors they see under sickness insurance schemes.

Most of them would probably agree with the great Social Democrat August Bebel who said in the old Reichstag that he would like so see an extension to the possibility of freely choosing doctors.

Ideology will not be able to solve the problems of our health service. The belief in the superiority of the State economy is an erroneous belief as failures in other fields have shown. Socialisation is no panacea for our health. *J. Jürgen Jeske*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 19 April 1972)

Ten million need psychiatric aid

Hans Strotzka: *Gesundheit für Millionen – Sozialpsychiatrie heute* **(Health for millions – Social Psychiatry Today). Paul Zsolnay Verlag, Vienna and Hamburg. 246 pp. 24 Marks.**

Psychiatry is a science that is currently going through a period of what can only be described as stormy development. A few years ago it began to turn to social psychology, dealing with the influence of the social environment on the occurrence and treatment of mental disease.

Professor Hans Strotzka, one of the leading representatives of modern social psychiatry, has now published an easily understandable book *Gesundheit für Millionen – Sozialpsychiatrie heute* in which he tries to outline the mental strain caused by our modern and ever-changing social system and points out methods to counter prejudice, neurosis, aggression and increasing isolation.

Strotzka's findings are alarming. Fifteen per cent of the population – that is some ten million West Germans – need psychiatric treatment, he claims. The number of people stranded within society is increasing despite economic prosperity, generally-valid norms are in a process of decay and the institutions of family and marriage face a crisis.

It is wrong to assume that these developments are basically restricted to the large urban areas. Strotzka shatters the myth of the healthy life of the rural populace.

The most important finding during field work in a rural Austrian community was that fifteen to twenty per cent of people living in the country suffer from psycho-social or psychosomatic disorders that needed psychiatric treatment.

But only a fraction of these sick people receive adequate medical care as general practitioners have too much work and are anyway unable to prescribe suitable treatment. The few psychiatrists deal more with organic medicine and mainly treat psychoses.

The majority of complaints prompted by psycho-social conditions remain untreated or an excessively dear pseudo-organic treatment is prescribed. An improved psychiatric service is indispensable for both sociological and economic reasons.

Preventive measures could prove of great value alongside short courses of psychoanalytical treatment. Marriage and education advice bureaux belong to this category as do the treatment of schoolchildren who find it hard to study, the care of refugees and the rehabilitation of criminals.

The most important step towards improving psycho-social conditions within society is that those responsible – and this includes us all – recognise the factors in our social structure that prompt illness. Reading Strotzka's book can help.

Dieter Baier

(Welt am Sonntag, 9 April 1972)

Doctors discuss the shape of things to come

Frankfurter Neue Presse

Technology is spreading further into the field of medicine. Computers are being used in hospital administration and in helping general practitioners reach a diagnosis.

Sensitive equipment for physical and chemical examination has led to a greater understanding of molecular biology and opened up the way for new forms of treatment.

Intensive care for heart patients, the further development of endoscopy and electro-cardiography, diagnosis by VHF sound waves, high frequency heat treatment and artificial organs are to be mentioned in this respect.

At the same time social, economic and political factors have pushed the medical and human problems further and further into the background. Observers have recently pointed out the danger of such considerations becoming more important than the doctor's actual role – that of a healer.

It is therefore more important than ever that the doctor's role, his duties and aims, his relation to patients and his position in society should be redefined.

Problems of this type dominated the Wiesbaden Congress held at the town's Diagnostic Centre and attended by some two hundred doctors and scientists. "The Future of Man in Medicine" was the main subject on the agenda but discussions showed that most doctors are far removed from overcoming present-day problems.

Classical medicine largely ignores the human element. Patients are always cases that must be treated. Persons in need of medical care must therefore be passive and accept everything the doctor believes is helpful.

Doctors carry out their duties as they have done for centuries. The only difference is that today they make use of the opportunities offered by modern technology and the vast range of medicaments at their disposal.

The doctor's role does not allow him much time to inform himself about the advances being made by medicine. He is often confronted by patients in his practice who know more about their complaint thanks to the mass media than the doctor himself does.

Despite the fact that they are only incompletely informed, the patients only allow the doctor to pick out one of the complaints they themselves have diagnosed. This rather exaggerated example clearly reveals the dilemma of medicine today.

The preventive examinations conducted in the Federal Republic in recent years presupposes a potentially active patient who goes to a doctor or diagnosis clinic without feeling the effects of any sickness.

Faced by this new situation, the doctor must learn how to deal with the active healthy or sick patient. This means that the doctor's authoritarian position must be abandoned.

More will expected from the doctor of the future than the mere command of his restricted field. Despite technological progress, practising doctors must not look upon medicine as biological technology to shorten or lengthen life, control births and deaths or to change personality structures.

Medicine will get itself into disrepute if it adopts a way of thinking that ignores the human element and its social duties.

Konrad Müller

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 18 April 1972)

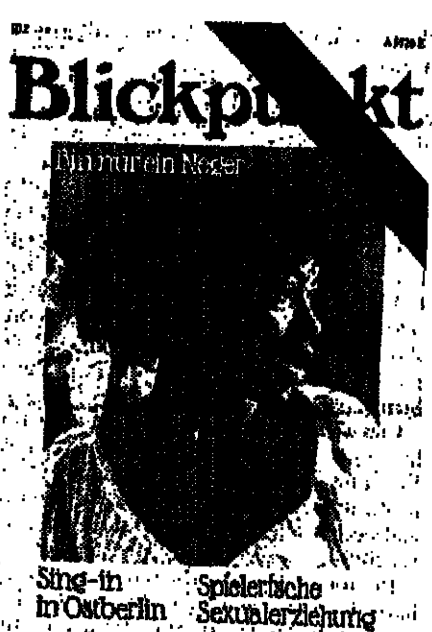
■ YOUNG PEOPLE

Critical youth magazines face financial difficulties

Two magazines are in the public eye, *ran* and *blickpunkt*. The former is the political magazine for young people published by the Trades Unions Confederation (DGB) and the latter the publication of the Berlin *Landesjugendring*. Both are threatened with extinction owing to a lack of funds.

The difficulties facing these publications are well-known to experts on the subject of the press for the young. Without the backing of a wealthy publishing house and having to rely on subsidies from the public or an association such magazines always have to steer a careful course between the interests of young people and the vested interests of those who provide the funds.

In specific terms, the budgeting committee of the Bundestag has decided that the money from their youth programme – with a special programme for Berlin – standing at 235,000 Marks in 1972



(Photo: Zeitschrift des Landesjugendringes Berlin)

should be halved as far as *blickpunkt* (meaning "viewpoint") is concerned. If this cutback were to come into force this summer it would be the death knell for the critical magazine.

Before dropping the guillotine, however, the finance committee wanted to spend the first six months of this year going over the magazine with a tooth comb again. It has also called on the Bonn government to judge whether *blickpunkt* still deserves public money.

The ministry responsible for youth affairs also called on Ilse Reichelt, Berlin's senator for family, youth and sporting affairs, to issue a report on the magazine and its possible future development.

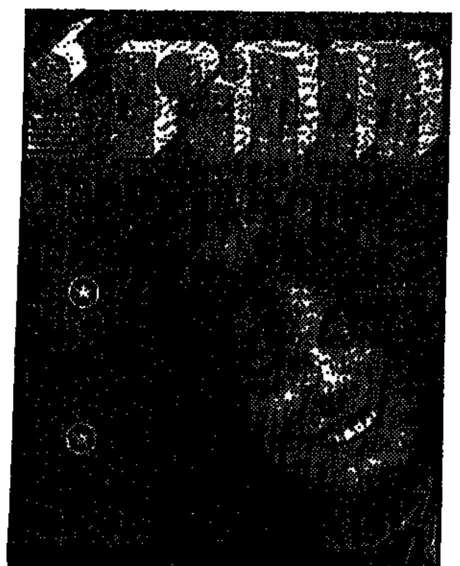
The magazine's editors feel this report will be favourable. But even if the news from Bonn is good the fate of this bright magazine will hang in the balance.

Nor does a continuation of the Bonn subsidies alter the fact that for the first time in 23 years a Bundestag body has intervened in the decision-making capacity of the Berlin state youth welfare sub-committee, as *blickpunkt* said when writing about its own case. As far as the *Evangelisch* (Protestant) state youth chamber was concerned this was the thin end of a wedge that could turn out to be dangerous censorship of the press.

There has been a flood of sympathy and support from individual readers, state youth associations and from unions right down to the Confederation of West German Boy-Scouts.

No one party nor any one-sided political movement decides the line of the publication. Ten youth associations that make up the *Landesjugendring Berlin* decide jointly what *blickpunkt* shall publish and work together as a press sub-committee.

Of course taboos are taken into account with regard to apprenticeship, school and university activities, juvenile crime and punishment and the press, of course articles are published that would



not get into another West Berlin paper or magazine so readily. *Blickpunkt* covers a broad sweep of politics, Berlin youth and artistic activities and the like and of the magazine's readership of 12,000 about one third are in other parts of West Germany.

The 200th edition of *blickpunkt* after twenty years of publication appeared in April 1971 and Berlin Mayor Klaus Schütz wrote an introductory article n which he said that the magazine had contributed towards aiding tomorrow's citizens prepare for the tasks that lie ahead of them.

On *blickpunkt's* jubilee *Süddeutsche Zeitung* said that the magazine was an excellently edited visiting card for Berlin youth group work which was envied not only in the Federal Republic.

In this respect the publishers of *ran* in Düsseldorf have a point in common with their colleagues in Berlin. They too enjoy keen interest and praise from outsiders while there are battles going on among the insiders. *Ran* is in its second year, a brash full-colour, sexy DGB youth magazine that from the outset hit out at the ponderous nature of crusty old bureaucrats.

One example often quoted for the suggestiveness of this publication is the article headlined: "Girls who make it on their own" – which was all about dressmaking! People have even gone on television and complained about such frivolity.

Ran's circulation of 100,000 is mainly young trade unionists. Its aim is certainly more than to present the Pop outlook on the world and the bare birds which is what it seems to offer at first glance. And the bosses are not too happy when certain firms are pilloried even if this is done in a roundabout manner. *Ran* has blacklisted firms, condemned rough treatment of apprentices and even named names among Bonn VIPs in connection with dirty washing.

The existence of *ran* is threatened now that it is more rarely distributed free and more often apprentices and young workers have to dig into their pockets to buy it.

The national DGB committee intended to discuss the matter of *ran* (the word means "let's go!") on 10 April, but the question was so explosive it never even got on to the day's agenda.

Now under certain circumstances the red light will be given to the magazine on 30 June if the national congress expresses its dissatisfaction with the voice raised by its youngsters.

The editors of *ran* in Düsseldorf say: "We're told it's a question of money when they really mean it's a question of what we are printing."

An intensive campaign was necessary to persuade young trade unionists to go out and spend their money on the magazine. But the DGB's own Bund Verlag would not help out. So it was understandable that the *ran* editorial staff beat the drum of equality and pointed to the flood of union pamphlets that are sent to union members free of charge.

IG Metall, for instance, the metalworkers union, made a provisional decision to let the youngsters pay for *ran* themselves if they really wanted it, and now they will have to tussle with the question of equal rights again. Otherwise everyone should come out into the open and should admit they want to silence these young people.

Erich Richter, who is responsible for the Berlin publication, has spoken on behalf of both magazines. In an interview with *Sender Freies Berlin* he stated that *blickpunkt* was not a leftist magazine, just an uncomfortable magazine to be with. It's that all right!

Herbert Glossner
(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 23 April 1972)

Old folks still misunderstand the young, survey reveals

Young people in this country have gained a reputation of being longhaired, bearded, hash smoking yobbos who undermine society, want to replace the rule of law with anarchy and, if they had their way, would send everyone over the age of thirty to gas chambers.

This image of the young is obviously inspired by an aggressive minority of youngsters in schools, universities and at work as apprentices.

Now at last the official view of the younger generation by the old has been published, a view that is held by an important minority even if it has not yet been adopted by the man in the street.

Now 52.3 per cent of the people in this country were born after 1940, so there are more under thirties than older people. The incorrect image of this majority should be swept away. Young people "aren't really like that".

Surveys have been taken of the fifteen to 24 year-olds, those that voted for the first time at the last general election or alternatively will do so for the first time in 1973.

It was discovered that the world they move in is not so bad. Seventy-five per cent of them still live in the parental home, get on well with the old folks, are helped in their education by Mum and Dad and discuss their problems with them.

Nordwest-Zeitung

Forty-seven per cent of these young people are of the opinion that their mother and father are up-to-date and with it, 27 per cent feel their parents are past it and 26 per cent have no opinion either way.

At any rate 72 per cent feel that the older generation really does not understand their problems. But 75 per cent feel that youngsters in their turn do not understand the older generation.

It is remarkable that 56 per cent of the young people surveyed consider there is "sufficient social justice" in the Federal Republic and that there is equality of opportunity in this country. Thirty-seven per cent said they thought they would be able to achieve their career ambitions.

Forty per cent believe that though there is not equality of opportunity in West Germany, living in this country is pleasant. Unanimously the young people stated that good knowledge of how to do one's job, hard work and reliability as well as one's attitude to other people at work are more important than income. A good school education was, they said, still the best capital in the world. The young people's attitude to their work was remarkable. They no longer seem to consider their jobs drudgery. Only thirty per cent said they would give up working if they had enough money to join the leisured classes.

Seventy-four per cent said a life without work would be boring and 57 per cent said their job was "another hobby". Only 31 per cent said they lived for knocking-off time each day.

More liberal attitudes to sex have definitely made their mark on the young and the whole subject is treated so naturally by young people that it ceases to be a major issue for them. 86 per cent take sex before marriage as a matter of course, 85 per cent said a marriage should be dissolved at any time if both partners wanted it that way and 82 per cent said that a pregnant woman should be free to decide whether to give birth to her child or get rid of it.

Young people's attitudes towards the armed forces have changed as well. Twenty-five per cent say the Bundeswehr is unnecessary, four per cent think it has a "detrimental effect" and seventy per cent agree to be conscripted because the armed forces are "a necessary evil". The students interviewed were in the main, [illegible] per cent, opposed to the Bundeswehr.

Finally the young people were asked about their leisure and pleasure pursuits. Sixty-seven per cent said they had sufficient free time. Three per cent went so far as to say they had too much leisure time. Forty-four per cent complained that where they lived there were insufficient things to do in spare moments. Ten per cent said that there was absolutely nothing to keep them amused in leisure time where they lived.

Ninety-two per cent had a television at home and of these sixty per cent said they watched it occasionally or often. 85 per cent read the papers regularly, 67 per cent two or more papers. Seventy per cent listen regularly to the radio.

These demoscopic figures must be carefully weighed up since they completely negate the picture the average citizen of this country has of today's young people.

It seems that the present young generation will turn out to be as bourgeois as their parents and grandparents. The radicals, no matter what cause they subscribe to, are a minority, but an active minority.

Dr Kurt Joachim Fischer
(Nordwest Zeitung, 8 April 1972)

■ SPORT

Hair root hormone test for women athletes

Münchner Merkur

Olympic athletes of the fair sex have to be full-blooded women. They are not allowed the slightest genetic variation that might enable them to deliver a man's performance in competition with other women.

This is why the sex checks to be carried out by a special team of doctors at the Munich Olympics are of particular importance.

Some 1,500 women athletes from all over the world will travel to Munich this August to represent their countries at the Olympics. An estimated 700 of them will undergo hormone checks for the first time.

The procedure is not particularly alarming and, for that matter, virtually painless. All they have to do is to part company with a single one of the tens of thousands of hairs on their head.

The hair root cells are dyed red for purposes of inspection and then scrutinised under a microscope to determine whether or not they contain the "dreaded" Y chromosome (female cells may only contain X chromosomes).

In the event of a Y chromosome being identified the unfortunate athletes would be proven intersexual and, regrettably, banned from taking part in the Games.

Dr Kurt Käfer, 42, medical adviser and head of health and hygiene to the organisation committee, points out that "Protests will be to no avail, as all national Olympic committees well realise."

As far as can be anticipated a maximum two or three out of the 700 women who have yet to undergo the test are likely to be disqualified on grounds of intersexuality.

Their ilk first came to light at the International women's athletics championships in London in 1934. An 800-metre runner who held the world record at the time and looked like a rather attractive fair-haired boy shortly afterwards underwent a sex-change operation.

Prior to and shortly after the Second World War fourteen cases in all of intersexuality among female athletes came to light.

A well-known instance is that of the pentathlon specialist and shot-putter who also went on to undergo a sex change and subsequently married and fathered a child. These, of course, are extreme instances. Nowadays the mere presence of Y chromosomes is sufficient to lead to disqualification even though, as Dr Käfer noted at a press conference, the athlete might be a wife and mother (and what more can one ask by way of proof of sex?). This would be an extreme instance at the other end of the scale but the mother with Y chromosomes would still be disqualified because her chromosome structure boosts the development of masculine muscles.

Their hair root cell test will have the blessing of the International Olympic Committee for the first time at Munich.

Tests will be conducted in the Olympic village by seventeen geneticists and twenty scientific assistants of the Max Planck Institute under the supervision of members of the IOC medical commission. Once the test is passed the athlete is issued with a certificate that will be acepted as proof of her sex at all future Olympics.

Fritz Woock
(Münchner Merkur, 14 April 1972)



Topping-out

At long last, before the costs have had time to mushroom still further, the marquee-like roof topping much of the central Olympic complex is in position. The big top is ready, the arena awaits the 15,000 athletes and their aides.

(Photo: Marianne von der Lancken)

Folklore festival for Munich

The International Folklore Festival will form an attractive part of the Olympic summer in Munich. Mrs Eva Maze's International Artists Productions are sponsoring fifteen groups numbering more than 700 artistes to Munich, some of the groups being world-famous in their field.

Over a period of 27 days starting on 14 August the ensembles will star in seven programmes to be held in the big top of Zirkus Krone. Tickets are already on sale.

The organisers hope that the folklore programme, which does not call for an understanding of the various languages, will prompt additional international encounters among the many visiting nationalities, be they Olympic athletes or spectators.

Folklore – song and dance – also presents countries that cannot claim an international reputation in other artistic fields with an opportunity of making their cultural presence felt.

Dr Hohenemser, Munich's highest-ranking official for cultural affairs, again took the opportunity of advocating public transport facilities free of charge for Olympic visitors – an idea that has so far sadly failed to gain sufficient support.

Artistic events are subsidised to the tune of three or four per cent of local authority expenditure, though, and the same proportion will apply at the Games.

No groups from this country will take part in the folklore programme. Bavaria, in cooperation with Bavarian Radio, is preparing a separate programme of artistic events under the general heading of Vita Bavarica.

A. Katz
(Lübecker Nachrichten, 9 April 1972)

All-time record in government sports expenditure

With the budget through committee stage in the Bundestag it can confidently be forecast that this year the Federal government will be spending nearly 336 million Marks on sporting activities of one kind or another.

The Interior Ministry's estimates include no less than 194 million Marks for sports promotion. The Federal Republic Sports League (DSB), the National Olympic Committee and sports associations are to receive a record 23.2 million Marks.

Of this amount 3,910,000 Marks are to go towards international sporting events and participation by athletes from this country; 7.3 million Marks are provided for coaching by sports associations; three million for national coaches' salaries, 400,000 Marks for coaching aids and 100,000 Marks for conferences.

An allocation of 3.7 million Marks is to be made to the National Olympic Committee, while Bonn is to contribute a million Marks towards the upkeep of national training centres.

Along with the Ministry of Labour the Ministry of the Interior subsidises sport for the handicapped to the tune of a further million Marks.

The Munich Olympics not unnaturally take the largest slice of this year's cake – 105 million Marks. Then there is a further two million Marks towards subsidising participation in the Olympics by athletes from this country.

In addition to the sports facilities under construction for the Olympics the Federal government is budgeting for anything up to 43 million Marks towards the cost of training centres and sports facilities in West Berlin and along the border between this country and the GDR.

Nearly all Federal Ministries' estimates include sports expenditure of some kind or other. The Ministry of Youth, Family Affairs and Health, for instance, is spending 2,484,000 Marks on international sporting exchanges, youth training and the Federal Youth Games, towards which a special grant of four million Marks is to be made.

The Foreign Office and the Ministry of Economic Development are spending 5.25 million Marks on the sports side of development aid.

The Federal Sports Institute, a scientific body, is to be allocated 5.7 million Marks and the Ministry of Education and Science is investing 23.1 million Marks in university sports facilities.

Most Ministries make full use of sports allocations. The Ministry of Intra-German Affairs, on the other hand, can only show willing. It would gladly contribute towards the cost of intra-German sporting exchanges if only any were to come about.

The GDR, however, has imposed so strict an embargo on sporting exchanges with this country that little of the 700,000 Marks set aside for this purpose is spent.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 April 1972)

MUNICH BRIEFS

Water-skiing

Thirty-five adepts from twenty countries will go through their paces during the Kiel Olympic regatta to publicise water-skiing as a future Olympic discipline.

On an 800-metre course from Bellevuebrücke to the old Olympic harbour they will be taking part in the official world championships on 1 and 2 September.

The countries they represent will include America, Australia, Canada, Mexico, Argentina, Columbia and many European states, though Czechoslovakia will be alone in representing the Eastern Bloc.

Five of the 35 participants will be women.

The International Water-Skiing Association has applied to the IOC for recognition of water-skiing as a future Olympic discipline. It represents 46 national associations and thus qualifies for Olympic representation according to the requirements of the Olympic movement.

(Handelsblatt, 21 April 1972)

Olympic grove

The Olympic Grove at Oberwiesenfeld, the location of the Olympic stadium, the Olympic village and most of Munich's Olympic sports facilities, is continuing to grow.

Prince Alexandre de Merode, a Belgian member of the International Olympic Committee, has planted a Belgian black poplar, Dr Giorgio di Stefani of Italy an Italian pointed maple and Sandy Duncan, General Secretary of the British National Olympic Committee an English oak, a French oak sapling already having been planted.

The grove now boasts cedars of Lebanon, Hungarian acacia, Canadian maple, Moroccan cypresses, oil willows from Abu Dhabi, Carpathian fir trees from Rumania, Turkish spruce, Greek plane trees, Luxembourg copper beeches and iron bark trees from Iran.

(Frankfuer Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 April 1972)

Tickets sold

The organisers of the Olympic regatta in Kiel no longer need worry on one score. Ticket sales no longer represent a problem. According to an interim report recently issued only 118 tickets out of a total of 26,000 for the Olympic sailing events between 26 August and 6 September remain to be sold.

Standing room only is available in one or two places for the opening and closing ceremonies too.

The organisation committee in Kiel was surprised to note that only seven tickets were ordered from Sweden and only thirty from neighbouring Denmark. The foreign country, from which most ticket requests have been received is the United States, with 680 tickets ordered.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 7 April 1972)

Commemoratives

Starting on 9 May twenty million ten-Mark Olympic commemorative coins will be on sale at all banks in this country. They will feature the fourth Olympic design consisting of a view of the Olympic facilities including the marquee roof at Munich on one side and the usual eagle emblem on the other.

The standard coin costs ten Marks, i.e. face value. A special mint issue is available at fifteen Marks.

(Die Welt, 19 April 1972)